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A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 4.

BOSTON, MASS., DEC. 15, 1900.

NO. 6.

Your Subscription Ended

for this paper, possibly with the last issue of A FEW HENS. If so, and you renew, you will get fifty per cent. more matter the coming year, as the paper will contain twelve pages instead of eight. The price will remain the same, 25 cents, as before. Kindly favor us at once with your renewal, sending 25 cents for same, in cash or postage stamps.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL HINTS.

Raise a club.
Quality tells.
Good bye, 1900.
Kill the drones.
Pullets for eggs.
Merry Christmas.
Show your pluck.
Stick to the work.
Hens for breeding.
Poor, poor turkey?
Close the accounts.
Clean houses daily.
Alternate the males.
Disinfect each week.
Complete your pens.
Have warm quarters.
Join the Symposium.
Aged hens are costly.
Get incubators ready.
Advertise the surplus.
Snow shovelling next.
Get up your ambition.
Now for Winter laying.
Keep poultry for profit.
Yearlings are profitable.
Are you rid of the culls?
Keep down the cobwebs.
Keep window glass clean.
Renew your subscription.
Don't overcrowd the pens.
Scratching litter is in order.
Excelsior makes good nests.
Open houses on bright days.
Trap nests establish records.
Get your friends to subscribe.
Encourage the scratching hen.
Have you picked out the best?

Experimental Farm Notes.

Three More Individual Records Pass the 100 Mark—Another Big Drop in Number of Eggs and Layers—Seven Brahmas, nine Wh. Plymouth Rocks, nine Wh. Wyandottes, one Rhode Island Red, and one Silver Wyandotte Have Laid from 90 to 139 Eggs Each up to November 1st—General Notes and Comments.

Molting season played sad havoc with our egg record during October, but then what we lose now we gain in Winter and early Spring.

During the month there were more Brahmas laying than any other variety, but the White Plymouth Rocks gave the best average of eggs, while the Wyandottes dropped down to the bottom of the list.

A study of the individual record will show that up to November 1st, five White Plymouth Rocks, six White Wyandottes, two Felch Brahmas, one Rhode Island Red and one Silver Wyandotte have passed the 100 mark; one Felch Brahma, four Cost Brahmas, three White Wyandottes and four White Plymouth Rocks have passed the 90 mark.

During the month of October the following number of hens were laying:

Pen No	0	0
1	2	2
2	2	2
3	0	0
4	1	1
5	1	1
6	4	4
7	1	1
8	0	0
9	4	4
R. I. Reds	2	2
Miscellaneous	1	1
Total,	18	18

A loss of 56 layers during the month.

The above table represents the following number of layers of each breed:

Brahmas	8
Wyandottes	3
White Plymouth Rocks	4
Rhode Island Reds	2

During the month the following number of eggs were laid (not including miscellaneous stock):

W. P. Rocks,	4 head,	44 eggs;	average	11
Brahmas,	8 head,	40 eggs;	average	5
R. I. Reds,	2 head,	7 eggs;	average	3.1
Wyandottes,	3 head,	7 eggs;	average	2.1

The highest number of eggs we gathered in one day, during the month of October, was 7; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of Brahma eggs received in one day was 4; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of Wyandotte eggs received in one day was 1; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of White Plymouth Rock eggs received in one day was 3; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of Rhode Island Red eggs received in one day was 1; the lowest number 0.

The standing of individual layers is as follows (from January 1 to November 1 excluding all that laid under 90 eggs in that time:)

No. 46, White Plymouth Rock	.....139 eggs
75, " "	.....131
45, White Wyandotte	.....130
38, " "	.....120
86, Rhode Island Red	.....116
26, White Wyandotte	.....112
18, " "	.....111
30, " "	.....111
22, " "	.....104
16, Brahma (Felch)	.....104
52, White Plymouth Rock	.....101
66, " "	.....100
77, " "	.....100
Silver Wyandotte	.....100
16, Brahma (Felch)	.....100
34, " "	.....99
16, White Wyandotte	.....96
76, White Plymouth Rock	.....96
73, " "	.....95
81, " "	.....92
52, Brahma (Cost)	.....92
11, White Wyandotte	.....91
15, " "	.....91
59, Brahma (Cost)	.....91
63, White Plymouth Rock	.....91
62, Brahma (Cost)	.....90
46, " "	.....90

The highest individual egg record for the month belongs to White Plymouth Rock hen No. 73, she having laid 15 eggs.

The total number of eggs laid on the farm during October was 102, being 497 less than were laid during the previous month.

During October the highest price we received for eggs was 28 cents a dozen; lowest, 24 cents; average, 26 cents.

During the month we erected another tier of cages in our feed room for the accommodation of extra birds, especially male birds used as changes in our breeding pens. Our readers will remember that two years ago we built one tier of 10 cages, and last year put 8 cages on top of them. This year we completed another tier of 8 cages on top of those erected last year, which gives us 26 cages, covering the entire side of our feed room from floor to roof, with enough space above the third tier to keep extra fountains and feed troughs. These cages are two feet square and two feet high, and have a wire netting (inch mesh) in front of each, fastened with a handy catch made of wire (the invention of Mr. Geishaker, of Cuckoo trap nest fame). Last year we used the usual stone drinking fountains in each of these cages, but as they took up considerable room and besides were rather unsatisfactory, we have now regular drinking cups the same as used in the cages at poultry exhibitions.

These we purchased from the Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co., 28 Vesey Street, New York city.

During the time they are occupied we clean out these coops every day or two and put a thin coating of sifted coal ashes on the floor. About once a week we disinfect them with a slight sprinkling of Whitney's Carbolate of Lime. In this way the cages are always clean and have no bad smell. When the nights become cold we hang a bag over each cage to protect the bird.

* * *

We have just finished our annual "house cleaning." All the outside runs and walks have been carefully raked up; the large poplar trees over the lawn have been trimmed and topped; leaves gathered and put into the scratching sheds; the houses thoroughly cleaned and disinfected; all the old rubbish about the place burned up; and the Winter supply of wood for our feed cooker gathered.

It was quite a job, but the appearance of the place is greatly improved.

Besides we repaired all the roofs that needed attention; carefully examined the sides of each building to avoid draughts in the house; oiled up the hinges and repaired every bit of wood-work that was out of order.

We sorted over all our breeding stock, removed the drones, keeping only those that have given us the most profit the past year. We shall use very few pullets in our breeding pens the coming season, as we think we can get better results from the choicest of last year's flocks, to which we are adding birds with records from other breeders' yards. But more of this when we give our annual report.

* * *

One of the novelties on the farm the coming season will be a test of White Wonders. A. L. Merrill, 490 Court St., Auburn, Maine, has just forwarded us a trio of that breed which shall have careful attention, and a trap-nest record made of the results.

Mr. Merrill's two letter which follow will explain themselves:

"I will ship you this day (November 12) the trio of White Wonders I wrote

you about last Summer. The two pullets I think are about medium sized, or will be when they get their growth. They were hatched about May 20. The cockerel is younger; he was hatched the last of June. I had to send you a younger cockerel, as the older ones were related to the pullets.

"I have found White Wonders extra good Winter layers, and I hope they will prove the same with you."

The second letter is under date of November 19, and is as follows:

"Your favor of 15th received. In regard to the Wonders I will say my stock came from W. N. French, the originator, soon after he introduced them. I was breeding the Orocco strain of Barred Plymouth Rocks at that time, but not liking the dark pin feathers I decided to try the Wonders, and after a critical test of two years, under various conditions, I discarded the Rocks entirely, as I considered the Wonders superior to them in every respect. Since then I have bred from 100 to 300 chicks annually and wintered from 50 to 100 hens. They breed very true to type and the chicks are rapid growers. I have had chicks at eight weeks old that weighed 2 1-4 pounds, and 8 1-2 pounds at five months.

"I have often thought we should have a breed that would correspond with the Dorking, and I think with careful breeding they will fill that place."

* * *

We shall also place the Barred Plymouth Rocks in our laying contest next season and for that purpose have some fine hens and pullets. These will be mated to extra fine male birds, secured from Dr. F. E. Colby, Bow Mills, N. H. We have something to say about Dr. Colby's stock in our editorial columns, to which we call our readers' attention.

* * *

This month will end the year's record of work on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm, which will be given, as is our usual custom, in the February number. We shall begin 1901 with the best stock we ever owned and with more improved facilities.

Eggs and Egg Farming.

Get the Hens in Comfortable Quarters and Feed the Best of Egg Foods for Strong Winter Laying—The Right Step Taken Now Will Reap the Harvest.

Keep the nests clean.

Cold hens cannot lay.

Prices are encouraging.

Good laying is hereditary.

The egg crop is increasing.

A severe frost checks laying.

Large eggs hold private trade.

There is always a market for eggs.

The pullets should be laying steady now.

Winter care determines the Winter egg crop.

Warmth is most essential for egg production.

Eggs are the staple crop in poultry farming.

The "red headed" pullet is on the verge of laying.

The yearling hen is of great value both for laying and breeding.

One pound of meat is worth several pounds of grain for making eggs.

The contents of ten eggs are equal in nutritive value to a pound of beef.

The harvester of a Winter egg crop does not complain that there is no money in hens.

Sudden changes of weather are more detrimental to laying than a steady cold season.

The hen after laying her egg needs a drink of water; see that she is constantly supplied.

The new feathers are all the more becoming to the hen that is now settling down to business.

The busy hen is the laying hen, and all hens that produce a continued egg supply are kept busy, says *American Agriculturist*.

With good birds to begin with, then warm, roomy quarters and good food and regular care, there should be plenty of eggs, says V. M. Couch, in *Farm-Poultry*.

Thirty thousand dozen eggs were recently received by a single steamer in New York. They came from Germany and many of them were limed by a superior German process.

G. O. Brown says to secure Winter egg laying, favorable conditions in housing, good judgment in the selection of a varied diet and a healthy flock of hens are three indispensable factors.

Egypt is exporting eggs, says *Rural New-Yorker*. Last year 39,761,000 eggs were exported from the land of Cleopatra. This year the egg exports promise to reach 70,000,000—two-thirds going to England.

In many cases the failure to get plenty of eggs during the cold weather is largely due to lack of proper care and food, says V. M. Couch, in *Farm-Poultry*; but there is considerable in the selection of stock in the Fall to begin with.

S. L. Roberts, in *San Francisco Post*, says eggs and poultry some day will be sold by the pound, as nearly all other commodities are sold in California. The customer who pays 20 cents for small eggs when he could get large ones for the same at another market, gets cheated.

G. B. Fiske, in *Farm and Home*, says to keep in condition for laying a hen should never have a full crop during the day, but should be kept hungry enough to scratch and hustle about to find the food which has been scattered about in the litter. Hungry hens keep busy and do not get too fat to lay.

In China eggs can be bought in inexhaustible quantities all the year round at from two to three cents per dozen. The bulk of the supply is shipped to Australia. Packing labor in Hong Kong costs about \$4 per month, and freight to Sydney is \$6 per ton. These eggs are sold at six cents per dozen, which allows a good profit. Biscuit factories and pastry cooks whose requirements are estimated at 1,000,000 dozen per annum are now nearly all using these eggs and the local producer is hopelessly handicapped by such competition.

Three things are necessary to profitable egg production, says Waldo F. Brown, in *Country Gentleman*: One. A good house, warmly built for Winter use and kept reasonably clean. Two. Plenty of food in variety given at regular hours and never in a greater quantity than will be eaten up clean. Three. A constant supply of pure, fresh water. Allowing the hens to forage for a living and often go hungry, to roost in trees and on fences in Winter, and to suffer with thirst in the heat of Summer, or when water is frozen in Winter, means that you will often be for weeks without eggs and have plenty of them only when the price is lowest.

The following taken from the *Feather* contains good sense: "Some of our poultry writers have been searching for the egg type of hens, and their conclusions are far apart and irreconcilable. Hens of different shapes and types lay eggs with the same enthusiasm and persistence. It is impossible to select one single type and say this is the egg layer *par excellence*. It should be remembered that the egg producing function is not yet by any means developed to its maximum, and consequently it is too early to talk of egg types. When the different varieties of fowls are raised to an average yield of 200 eggs or more per annum it will be much easier to select the egg type, if such a thing exists. In the meantime let us select the great layers without regard to type."

About Broilers and Roasters.

With the Advent of the Holidays, the Up-to-date Market Poulterer is on Hand With Choice Stock—Competition is Such that Only Gilt-edge Stock Bring the Fancy Prices.

This is roaster season.

Limit the exercise in fattening.

Exclusive broiler farms have passed out of existence.

The broiler industry has grown to be a very extensive one.

Poultry should be put up to fatten when between 5 to 7 months of age.

Did you ever try buckwheat meal for fattening purposes? It will do it quicker than cornmeal.

When past 7 months of age, it takes longer to fatten poultry, and the flesh has a tendency to become leathery.

Chickens 10 weeks old will weigh one pound, and in late February or early March will be worth 50 to 75 cents per pound.

Equal parts of barley meal and cornmeal are better for fattening than clear corn. Mixed with skim milk it is all the better.

The fattening season in France commences in October and continues until July. From six to eight weeks will suffice to fatten a fowl.

On many farms where broiler raising is made a specialty, the incubators are started October 1st, so that by the time of the Christmas holidays there can be a shipment made to the large cities.

A boarder at one of our city boarding houses remarked to a fellow boarder

at the tables: "This must be a healthy place for chickens." "Why?" asked the other. "Because I never see any dead ones hereabout." — *American Stock-Keeper*.

Farm and Home says, to fatten, put the chickens in a house, feed well with corn mostly, with a little crushed bone, table scraps, etc., for a change. Do not let them out for exercise, but keep their quarters scrupulously clean, and when fat sell if the market is favorable.

A correspondent in *Farm Journal* says a block especially for decapitating fowls is easily made. Along one side of a heavy block of wood drive two spikes or nails, far enough apart to allow the fowl's neck to slip between them. This holds it in place and makes it easy to complete the work at one blow. The *United States Crop Reporter* says an official publication from Ireland reports 18,547,088 head of poultry in the country in 1900, which is an increase of 313,568 head over last year. The poultry is divided as follows: 1,108,632 turkeys, 2,007,673 geese, 3,027,040 ducks, and 12,403,743 fowls and chickens.

An expert says that the one great mistake in raising capons is in marketing them too early and not having them fat enough. After caponizing keep them growing until they reach full size, which will take from ten to twelve months. Then fat them. This can be done in two weeks by shutting them in a small, dark coop and feeding three times a day all they will eat of cornmeal and middlings mixed up with milk.

The French are naturally an economical people, and after their fowls are killed and dressed are by no means through with the treatment of the subject. The waste products are scrupulously saved. The feathers are carefully collected and sorted, and when well dried are sold to dealers. The intestines are boiled, the fat skimmed off, minced as food to poultry, and the liquid fed to pigs. The combs and kidneys are sold to pastry cooks, the first for decorating purposes, and the

latter for pies. The head, neck and feet are sold to hotels and restaurants for flavoring sauces or are boiled down to make chicken jelly.

During the first days in fattening poultry in France, the paste food is less thick than later on and the obscurity graduated, says *American Agriculturist*. The base of the ration is buckwheat and barley flours in equal proportions. Some introduce maize or oatmeals and at the close of the fattening a little lard. The consensus of opinion agrees to wet the flours only with turned skim milk or butter milk. There is but one rule for the ration—give to repletion. Feed three times a day, but as regular as clockwork. Secure the greatest cleanliness and never use sour food.

The French feeder kills his own fowls and dresses them for the market. The neck is dislocated by a swift back chuck, given close to the head. The plucking invariably follows, so as to be completed before the body cools and thus facilitate the dressing. The legs and wings are tucked close to the body, which is placed breast downwards against a board. A moist cloth

BARRED ROCKS.

A few nice cockerels and pullets bred from A. C. Hawkins and Bradley Bros. stock. Cockerels \$2.00; trios \$5.00. They are fine for the money. Your money back if not satisfied. Write your wants. C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns

Extra good breeding cockerels \$2.00 and \$3.00 each. Write for prices on trios and pullets.

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BUFFINTON'S BUFFS!

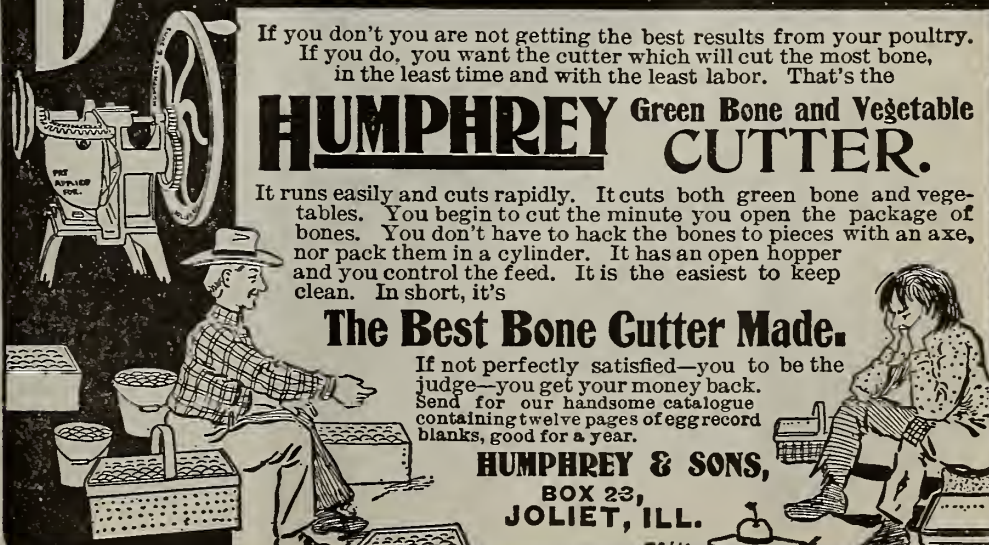
Buff and Partridge Wyandottes, Buff and Barred Plymouth Rocks, Buff and White Leghorns, Buff Cochins, Rose, Single and Pea Comb Rhode Island Reds. Old and young stock for sale. No more eggs for sale until 1901. Rowland G. Buffinton, Fall River, Mass. Box 677.

THOROUGHbred

S. C. W. Leghorns

Bred for great egg production. Yearling hens and cockerels for sale, 15 cents each. Discount on large orders. Eggs in season. F. J. BARNES, Turin, N. Y.

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If you don't you are not getting the best results from your poultry. If you do, you want the cutter which will cut the most bone, in the least time and with the least labor. That's the

HUMPHREY Green Bone and Vegetable CUTTER.

It runs easily and cuts rapidly. It cuts both green bone and vegetables. You begin to cut the minute you open the package of bones. You don't have to hack the bones to pieces with an axe, nor pack them in a cylinder. It has an open hopper and you control the feed. It is the easiest to keep clean. In short, it's

The Best Bone Cutter Made.

If not perfectly satisfied—you to be the judge—you get your money back. Send for our handsome catalogue containing twelve pages of egg record blanks, good for a year.

HUMPHREY & SONS,
BOX 23,
JOLIET, ILL.

is spread on the back to impart a fine grain appearance to the flesh. A weight is next applied thereon to secure the required market flatness and when thoroughly cold the birds are removed, packed carefully and closely, in crates or cases, as they are intended for the home or foreign market.

The *American Agriculturist* says for fattening poultry in France the epinette is the favorable plan. It is merely rows of cages, with a separate compartment for each bird, generally 20 inches square and opens at the top. No place is allowed for movement. Some of the epinettes can accommodate 50 to 100 birds. The bottom of the cage is in open work and below a movable board strewn with ashes or sawdust to receive the droppings. In front a trough for food and an earthen vessel for water. The cellar or fattening house should be kept warm, and the light gradually diminished till total darkness be secured on the fifth day. Only when being fed is daylight readmitted, and many prefer to employ a lamp.

Our Egg Club.

Grand Laying Records by Hens Owned by Readers of A FEW HENS—Reports Solicited.

Here is another new feature.

Readers of A FEW HENS are practical—and they keep practical fowls. They believe more in egg records than a score card. They have greater faith in winners in the nest than in the show room.

Since the advent of trap nests, more attention is paid to egg records, and more interest shown in big results. Everybody seems to be now aiming at the 200 mark, and it is gratifying to note that the hens belonging to readers of A FEW HENS are not only doing remarkable work, but are destined to lead in the race for supremacy.

For the past year we have seen this interest gradually growing, and as it means a very important matter we have concluded to start an Egg Club feature in the paper—if our readers will give it their support. If they will each month send us reports of laying done by their fowls, and all matters of interest in that line, we shall make this a valuable feature.

Tell us of any remarkable hen you have. Tell us of the greatest number of eggs laid by a hen in succession. Tell us the average of your flocks for the year.

Tell us how poorly the drones have done. Tell us about the pullets. Tell us how the different breeds you keep compare with each other. Tell us how you care for your stock to have such good laying.

In short, give us all the items possible to make this one of the leading departments in the paper.

The little yearling White Wyandotte hen, No. 110, belonging to Wm. C.

King, proprietor of the Homestead Poultry Farm, Hopkinton, Mass., which was editorially referred to in last issue of A FEW HENS, laid her 200th egg on November 26 and has until February 3d to complete her year.

White Wyandotte hen No. 59, belonging to Wm. H. Child, Hatboro, Pa., laid, on November 22d, only twelve more eggs to lay to reach the 200 mark, with six weeks' time in reserve to do it in.

Chas. A. French, Sandypoint, Maine, sends the following year's record of 200 hens, mostly grade Brahmas, with a few miscellaneous mixtures. Thirty were killed in July and August. Average number of eggs per hen, 141.3; value of eggs sold, \$400; value of dressed fowls, \$87.25; value of cockerels sold, \$126; total of receipts, \$613.25. Cost of feed, \$279.33, leaving a profit of \$333.92. Also 58 extra pullets raised, making the present flock 258 pullets. The cockerels would have brought more if all had been hatched at one time and earlier.

George H. Freeman, Hallowell, Maine, writes: "The White Wyandotte hen

QUICK MONEY

...IN CHICKENS...

Can be made if you use our incubators to hatch them. It saves money, too, because it takes so much less time and trouble than hens and they hatch a greater percentage of eggs. Our machines have self regulators that



KEEP THE HEAT JUST RIGHT.

No getting up nights to look after them. So simple a child can run them. All right in every way. Sold at low prices and fully guaranteed. Catalogue in 5 languages for 6 cts.


Des Moines Incubator Co., Box 423 Des Moines, Ia.

Important Notice!

I have just been appointed the General Eastern Agent for the renowned

Reliable Incubators and Brooders.

These are the best machines on the market and I respectfully solicit your orders. Same service, same price, same guarantee, at less cost to you. Circulars free. Poultry Supplies of all kinds. D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.



HYDRO Safety Lamp

FOR INCUBATORS

The only absolutely safe lamp. Gives a perfectly uniform heat. Entirely free from soot and smoke. Saves loss, oil and worry. The wick tube is surrounded by a water-jacket which keeps the burner cool and avoids all danger. No matter what incubator or brooder you use you need a Hydro Safety Lamp. Highest endorsements.

PRICE FROM 75c. TO \$2.70.

Send for free catalogue of all incubator supplies.

L. R. OAKES, Mfr., No. 2, 6th St., Bloomington, Ind.

whose record you published in the September number of A FEW HENS, has finished her first year of laying. She laid from November 19, 1899 to November 19, 1900, 278 eggs, which were worth at the price here, \$5.11. I see in the November issue of your paper that Mr. Estes, proprietor of King Philip Poultry Farm, compares his best layer, No. 162, with my hen. Should be pleased to hear from Mr. Estes when his has finished her year, and know how they compare when they have been laying the same length of time."

WYCHILD'S WYANDOTTES

WHITES AND SILVERS

EXCLUSIVELY.

YOUNG STOCK NOW READY.
Circular for stamp. WM. H. CHILD, Hatboro, Pa.

Green Cut Clover

NIAGARA BRAND.

Best grade on the market. It is well known and endorsed by leading poultrymen. Cured very green. Cut in 1-8 in. lengths and screened to take out all long stems. No crop bound fowls when you use our Clover.

Niagara Poultry Food

Best balanced ration on the market yet for laying hens and growing chicks. Contains our Cut Clover, also best quality beef scraps and bone. A complete food. Try some and be convinced. \$1.50 per 100 lbs.; \$7.00 per 500 lbs. Prices to the trade. Samples and circulars free.

Specialty—Breeders of Mammoth P. Ducks, pure W. Wyandottes, large Belgian Hares, meat and pedigree stock. Write us if you want good stock or eggs. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

I. K. FELCH & SON,
Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks,
and White Wyandottes,

—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—

Standard Points and Egg Records Combined.
Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

Poultry Marker.

With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

25 cts.

Send all orders to us.

FIVE MARKERS

SENT FOR \$1.00.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

RABBITS

The only low-cost book on the Rabbit ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to Select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit and Belgian Hare, for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, a man of long experience with Rabbits. Third edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved with breeders' directory. Price 25 cts. or with AMERICAN POULTRY ADVOCATE one year 40 cts. CLARENCE C. DEPUY, Publisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

The October report of King Philip Poultry Farm, Warren, R. I., shows 46 layers, a loss of 9 during the month. Five pullets laid 40 eggs, average 8. Twenty-eight year-olds laid 325 eggs, average 11.61.

Thirteen two-year olds laid 124 eggs, average 9.54. Odd eggs, 7.

The total shows that 46 hens laid 496 eggs, an average of 16 per day. Average per hen per day, .35. Highest number per day, 23; lowest, 8 eggs. Highest individual record for October is shared by Nos. 121 and 23, each having laid 23 eggs. Each of 10 hens laid 15 eggs or over. The pullets that are now laying were hatched March 7 and 30. Pullet No. 200 began laying September 1st, and laid to October 31st, 27 eggs.

Chas. H. Grote, Mauston, Wisconsin, in regard to the 200-egg hen writes: "I have experimented the last three years to find the 200-egg hen. End of June, 1899, I hatched nine pullets. About January 20, 1900, these pullets began to lay, some a few days earlier, some a few days later. They laid in January, 90 eggs; February, 104 eggs. Then one died and a second one caught in the wire and broke its leg in the thigh. She was laid up two or three weeks, but finally recovered, having a short leg. In March the remaining seven pullets laid 132 eggs and then came the trouble—every one of my pullets wanted to sit. I tried to break them, but without success. I got only 13 eggs in April. I set four of the pullets and they hatched and reared their chicks. The remaining pullets gave me 55 eggs in May. In June some of the first broodies began laying again and I set one or two. The broken-legged hen began laying again, so that in June I received 86 eggs. In July I set the remaining hen and the lame one, and got 94 eggs. In August, 40; September, 54, and in October 81. In other words, eight hens laid 749 eggs from January 20 to November 1. Every one of the hens set and raised a brood. If the pullets had not become broody I think I would have had a good egg crop.

"Now comes my question: Your correspondent, Edgar L. Warren, says: 'She (the hen) must be so fed and handled that eggs will come right along.' Please give details how he feeds and handles such a hen. He further promises to give the best way to handle a 200-egg hen when she wants to sit when a big egg record is desired."

We forwarded Mr. Grote's inquiry to Edgar L. Warren, Wolfboro, N. H., and in reply he writes A FEW HENS as follows:

The correspondent who wishes to know my methods of feeding and handling for eggs will find them fully described in my book, "200 Eggs a Year Per Hen," advertised in another column. The 200-egg hen must not be allowed to sit, but must be kept laying with as little interruption as possible from the day she lays her first egg to the day she goes into the moult twelve months later. After a hen has laid a litter of eggs she needs a short

rest, and if she has been well fed she will manifest symptoms of broodiness. In each laying pen there should be an inner compartment or cage, four feet square, where broody hens may be confined. The poultryman, as he goes through the pens at night, should look to see if there are any broody hens, and if he finds one should take her up carefully and put her gently into the inner compartment or cage, and keep her a prisoner there until the other hens have their breakfast the next morning. Then he may let her out. The chances are that she will at once return to her nest. Do not disturb her if she does, until night comes again, when she should be taken up and put into the inner pen as before. Keep this up until she is tired out. It will take a week or ten days, but at the end of that time the hen will be in prime condition. Her weight will be reduced and her appetite improved by going without her breakfast, and she will eat her morning mash with a relish. In a short time her comb will redden and she will go to laying again. It may seem a big job to take a hen off the nest every night for a week or ten days, but in reality it is nothing at all. Do not keep her from any other meal than the breakfast, but let her scratch

for her dinner and supper with the rest. Under this system the hen receives no shock or cruel treatment, but a little wholesome dieting which does her no end of good."

Our Brevity Symposium.

Readers of A FEW HENS are Invited to Answer Queries that Monthly Appear in these Columns, as Well as Ask Questions to be Answered.

No. 25.

What is your experience with grape vine leaves as a green food for hens, when there is no other green food in the yard?

Anything green will be eaten by chickens, in more or less limited quantity. Grape vine leaves I should imagine would be one of the poorest green foods imaginable, owing to the preponderance of wood.—Vreeland, Jersey City, N. J.

Grapes do not mature here, therefore no vines.—Chas. A. French, Sandpoint, Maine.

Never had any experience; was not aware that a hen would touch them.—Matt G. Robson, Port Leyden, N. Y.



HOW MANY EGGS
do you get? No matter, you will get twice as many if you feed the hens **Green Cut Bone**. It doubles the egg product in every instance. It makes hens lay in cold weather when eggs are worth the most money. It makes early and long layers of the pullets.

MANN'S NEW BONE CUTTERS
"beat all." They make the hen business sure and profitable. Mann's Clover Cutter—made entirely of iron and steel. Mann's Swinging Feed Tray beats the hen that wants to scratch or roost in the rough—prevents waste. Mann's Granite Crystal Crit is all Crit—no dirt. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue free.

F. W. MANN CO. Box 67, MILFORD, MASS.



Now is the Time You Want Eggs!

BY FEEDING YOUR FOWLS A LITTLE

Banner Egg Food & Tonic

your hens will lay lots of eggs and you can double your profits, as this is the season of the year when fresh laid eggs are scarce.

Remember, this **TONIC** does not force your hens to lay, it only brings them up to the pink of condition which is necessary for egg production. To those who have never used it, we simply ask you to give it a trial and be convinced.

Prices, One Pound can 25 cents; by mail, 40 cents.

Five cans \$1.00 on board express in New York.

Our Immense Illustrated Poultry Supply Catalogue sent FREE.

EXCELSIOR WIRE AND POULTRY SUPPLY CO.,
W. V. RUSS, Proprietor. 26 and 28 Vesey Street, New York City.

WHEN WRITING KINDLY MENTION A FEW HENS.

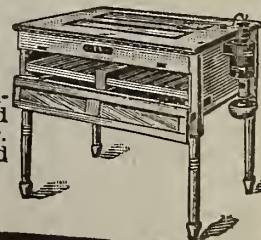
200-Egg Incubator for \$12.

The simplicity of the Stahl incubators created a demand that forced the production to such great proportions it is now possible to offer a first-class 200-egg incubator for \$12. This new incubator is an enlargement of the famous

WOODEN HEN

recognized the most perfect small hatcher. This new incubator is thoroughly well made; is a marvel of simplicity, and so perfect in its working that it hatches every fertile egg. Write for anything you want to know about incubators. Send for the new free illustrated catalogue.

GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.



Never tried grape leaves but hens had some of the fallen fruit without any bad effects.—E. R. Reid, Englewood, N. J.

I never fed grape vine leaves, though my hens eat off all the leaves they can reach. There has been plenty of rye, oats and grass in their runs all the time. I sow the runs by sections, keeping green picking for them at all times. I cannot say of what value the grape vines are to the hens, but they seem to enjoy them.—P. F. Daniell, Atlanta, Ga.

No. 26.

Which is the quickest money-maker—ducks or chickens (including eggs and fries)?

Chickens in this location. Many duck raisers have shifted to chickens along the coast here, and many who fitted up for ducks say they are making a very small profit compared with chicken men near them.—Chas. A. French.

Have not had anything to do with ducks for 25 years or more. Always found them good pay. Never tried them against chickens, but would say there is more money in hens, as a rule.—Matt G. Robson.

Ducks grow faster hence are quick money-makers for food. As all-rounders, hens take the lead.—Vreeland.

No. 27.

What is your experience in giving milk to poultry, sweet or sour? Do you think it is all right to feed clear?

Have fed both sweet and sour milk, in small quantities, but use it more to give variety than as a steady diet.—Robert Atkins, Esopus-on-Hudson, N. Y.

Milk in small quantities is good for fowls, but owing to its soon souring would not recommend it. If fed clear and sweet there is no better food. In fact, if a person feeds a chicken anything that is good for man, he will find the chicks thrive on it.—Vreeland.

I tested both a few years ago and found both good. Never had any harm from using either sweet or sour, or even butter milk clear. I found sour milk very good. I had eight pullets laying by October that used it right along. Their feathers looked nice and glossy.—Matt G. Robson.

My experience with sour milk was "felicitous." I fed some Barred Rocks I owned once all they wanted. The cockerels had free range, with thick sour milk in pans setting about, and other food as well, and weighed 3-4 pounds, ready for the roasting pan, at fourteen weeks. I never had any milk in later years for my chicks and never got such a growth from them.—Chas. A. French.

I have good results from feeding fresh sweet milk as a drink, and sour or butter milk to soak the little chicks' bread in for their noon feed, which they seem to relish better than anything else. I feed clear milk to my grown fowls as a drink, with good results, though I do not intend it to take the place of water. I keep clean fresh water before them at all times,

Sharpless Cream Separators—Profitable Dairying.

young and old, from the day they are hatched.—P. F. Daniell.

I mix milk now and then with the mash.—E. R. Reid.

No. 28.

Do you feed mostly wheat or corn, and what egg average per hen have you had this year—say from January 1st to October 1st?

Wheat; very little corn, except in cold weather. Average egg yield from January 1 to October 1, 107 eggs per hen.—E. R. Reid.

I feed a variety of grains, but corn forms about one-half the grain ration. The hens will eat corn in preference to any grain, and biddy generally knows what does her the most good. My average egg yield from January 1 to October 1 (White Plymouth Rocks) is 132.3. I can give the average of my Barred Plymouth Rocks only from January 1 to August 1, as I had a lot of pullets begin laying in August that was with them and I had stopped the trap nests owing to the ill health of my wife who, in my absence, was not able to attend to them. The Barred Rocks in the above time averaged 92.7.—P. F. Daniell.

Meal and corn predominate in my feed. The egg average from November 7, 1899 to October 25, 1900, was 137.1 eggs per hen—the big brown kind that sell at from four to six cents above highest Boston Chamber of

The Best Hen Food

is green cut bone—five times better than wheat. It doubles the laying of a flock. A few ounces fed daily often changes loss to profit. The only safe means of preparing it is the



**STEARNS
Bone Cutter**
(Formerly Webster & Hannum).

It acts on milling principle, and makes a mealy product, whereas *scraping* machines make splinters often fatal to chicks and pullets.

The Stearns runs easiest, is self-feeding, self-regulating, never clogs, even when fed with meat, gristle or corn. It won the highest and only awards at World's Fair, Chicago, and at National Export Exposition at Philadelphia.

FREE Send for our book "How to Make Poultry Pay," and catalogue of Cutters, Grit Crushers, Clover Cutters and other Poultry Yard accessories.

E. C. STEARNS & CO., Box 6, Syracuse, N. Y.

Commerce quotations the year round.—Charles A. French.

Do not feed much wheat; too dear here. I feed half cornmeal and half bran, by weight, in a mash, with beef scraps, salt, etc., added. Feed mash in morning. In Summer I mix with cold water; hot water in Winter. Give cracked corn at noon; same at night. For variety occasionally feed wheat, buckwheat and oats. Also in Winter give potatoes, turnips, cabbage or any green food I can get. From 30 hens, from January 1 to October 1, I got 2,985 eggs.—Matt G. Robson.

Corn. Average from January 1 to October 1 (with greatest egg yield in January, February and March) about 75 eggs. Have had an unusually large number of broody hens, attributable to feeding I think.—Robert Atkins.

Advance Trap Nest. Once tried, always used. Circular free. W. Darling, So. Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

ENTIRE stock S. C. W. Leghorns, 40 head, cheap. Hunsberger Bros., South Hatfield, Pa.

REG. UTILITY COLLIE PUPS Cheap. Maplewood Stock Farm, Albany, Vermont.

\$ a sitting. W. Wyandottes, Br. Leghorns. Scored stock. Hollyrood Poultry Farm, Crescent, La.

FOR SALE. Two incubators, 200-egg capacity. 12 tank brooders. Cheap. Apply Box 45, Rapids, O.

BARRED Plymouth Rock Eggs. \$2 per 13; \$4 per 50; \$7 per 100. Fine vigorous stock from leading strains. Abram Tallman, Englewood, N. J.

BIG MAIL for poultrymen. Insert your name in our Poultry Directory and receive poultry papers, poultry catalogues, etc., every day, only 10 cents. Poultry Directory Co., Goshen, Ind.

S. C. Wh. Leghorns
Choice yearling hens and cockerels for sale at \$2.00 each. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammononton, N. J.

200 Eggs a Year PER HEN.

Is the name of the best book on egg production and profits in poultry yet written. Practical, not theoretical. Author has a record of 214 eggs a year apiece from his Wyandottes. Commended by Hunter, Boyer, Curtis and others. "First-class," says one. "Invaluable," says another. "Tells more family secrets than any book I have ever seen," says a third. Tells how to start pullets laying in the Fall; just what to feed and how much for eggs; how to make a trap nest box; how to get fertile eggs; how to keep chicks from dying in the shell; gives the great law of sex, how to get males or females at will, which applies not only to fowls, but to domestic animals and to mankind; how to make from \$1,000 to \$2,500 a year from hens, etc. etc. Sixty-four pages. Price 50 cents. Circular free. E. L. WARREN, Wolfboro, N. H.

What a DOLLAR Will Do.

1 Box Lambert's Death to Lice, 20 lbs. Oyster Shells, 1 Yearly Egg Record, 10 lbs. Rock Grit, 5 lbs. Granulated Bone, 10 lbs. Meat Meal, 64-page Poultry Book, 10 Climax Leg Bands, 5 lbs. Ground Brick, Formula how to make Liquid Lice Paint, Poultry Industry, the People's Poultry Paper, Illustrated. 16 to 20 pages, monthly, one year. This collection worth \$2. Sent you by freight for only \$1. Money back if we don't please. W. S. GALLATIN & SON, York, Pa.



POULTRY PAPER, illustrated, 20 pages, 25 cents per year. 4 months trial 10 cents. Sample free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cents. Catalogue of poultry books free. Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.

"Best Liver Pill Made."
Parsons' Pills
Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. L. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.

Belated Replies.

In a house 14 x 20 feet I keep 45 hens. The house is divided into three parts. I would advise building a 100 foot house, divided into pens.

Never was troubled with bed bugs in the poultry house. Would advise painting the roosts, dropping boards and places where the bugs are likely to be, with tar.

I have kept as many as 45 hens in one flock, but have found them not so profitable as when kept in flocks of 12 hens each.—W. Darling, So. Setauket, N. Y.

* * *

New Questions.

37. Does it pay to raise ducks for eggs alone, same as it did when the Pekin industry was new?
38. In picking out fowls to market in June or July, how do you avoid selling some of your best Winter layers?
39. Would you prefer the developing of strains of one breed for different purposes, or the breeding of separate varieties for each of the ends sought, presupposing you had a good market breed? Reply from the standpoint of (1) feasibility, and (2) profitable returns.
40. What do you use for nesting material?
41. What disinfectant do you use in the houses and nests, and how do you like it?

Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

C. A. F.: We never fed gluten meal so cannot advise on that score. Probably some reader of A FEW HENS who has had experience in that line could advise.

To three parts each of bran, cornmeal and ground oats, we add two parts middlings.

E. R.: White Leghorn chicks should be fed bone and muscle food from the start, such as bran, ground oats and wheat. A little cornmeal and middlings can be added to complete a mash, but bran and ground oats should predominate.

L. K.: No, we are not opposed to corn as a poultry food, but we are opposed to the manner in which it is so often fed by careless poultry keepers. Corn is a heat and fat producing food and has very little virtue for egg making. When fowls have unlimited range in an orchard or clover pasture, the fowls gather enough variety of food to counteract the tendency of the corn, and in that case corn does not produce the serious results that it does when fowls are yarded. We believe in a variety of grains, both ground and whole. Cracked corn and cornmeal, whole and ground oats, wheat, bran and middlings, meat scraps and clover hay, go into the daily bill of fare during the Winter on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm.

Practical stock that won 63 premiums on 54 entries last season, including winners at Boston. B. and W. Rocks, W. Wyans., S. C. B. and W. Legs., R. I. Reds, Bl. Javas. Eggs. Cir. G. A. Chapin, Hampden, Mass.

ARTIFICIAL INCUBATING AND BROODING.

H. S. M.: The market poultry business cannot be carried on to any extent without the aid of incubators and brooders.

A dry cellar is the very best place to run an incubator.

Outdoor brooders do satisfactory work but we prefer having them under a shed, so that the attendant is not exposed to bad weather in looking after the chicks.

C. H. G.: Brahma eggs are the hardest to hatch in an incubator, and should never be placed in a machine with other varieties of eggs. The shell of the Brahma egg is tough and requires more moisture and ventilation at times than do other eggs. It is hard to advise just how to ventilate the machine unless acquainted with the kind of machine used. We govern our work according to the air cells, and open or shut the slides or add moisture, as the case may be. For better instructions it is advisable to write to the manufacturers of your incubator.

B. G. H.: We prefer a brooding house to outdoor brooders, for the sole reason that it is more convenient to the attendant. As far as results are concerned, we do not believe there is any difference, if both methods are properly handled. We prefer individual

brooders to the pipe system, as the risk of loss is not so great by the heat going down on a cold night.

H. J. K.: Do not start the brooder at a greater heat than 100 degrees; we prefer 90. Too great a heat in the brooder often causes bowel troubles, as the chicks sweat in the brooders and chill the moment they come in contact with the outside cold air.

* * *

DISEASES.

A. E. C. L.: We believe the trouble of cramps with your chicks is due to two causes: 1st, overfeeding; 2d, dampness.

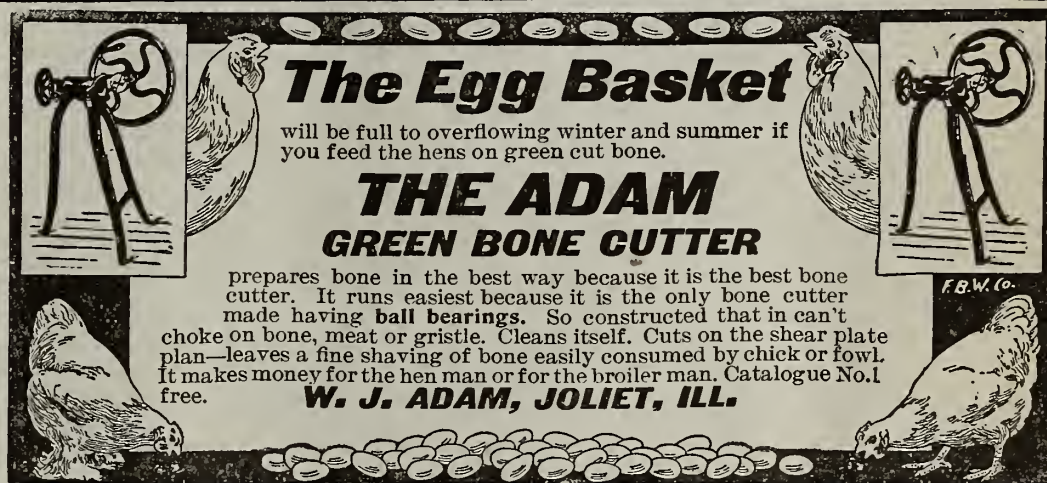
While humble foot is generally caused by fowls jumping from some high point to the ground and striking a stone or some other obstacle, it can also come from a fowl treading heavily on such an object.

[Continued on page 92.]

BARRED P. ROCK Cockerels for sale. Parents won first, second and third at Bristol, Conn. Write for prices. C. F. Bourgeois, Cromwell, Conn.

TRY THE PRACTICAL HEN SEPARATOR Separates the layers from the non-layers. Equal to the best. Plans 75c. E. A. Joslyn, Hammononton, N. J.

MARYLAND Thoroughbred Barred Plymouth Rock Farm. E. B. Thompson's strain. Settings \$1.00. A. DeR. MEARES, Hyattsville, Md.



The Egg Basket

will be full to overflowing winter and summer if you feed the hens on green cut bone.

THE ADAM GREEN BONE CUTTER

prepares bone in the best way because it is the best bone cutter. It runs easiest because it is the only bone cutter made having **ball bearings**. So constructed that it can't choke on bone, meat or gristle. Cleans itself. Cuts on the shear plate plan—leaves a fine shaving of bone easily consumed by chick or fowl. It makes money for the hen man or for the broiler man. Catalogue No. 1 free.

W. J. ADAM, JOLIET, ILL.



The Sure Hatch

is a high grade incubator at a low price. Thousands in use. California red-wood cases and copper tank incubators at the price others ask for common pine and galvanized iron. Our brooder broods as well as our hatcher hatches. Handsome catalog giving plans for practical poultry houses, yards, etc., free. Write to-day. You need it in your poultry business.

Sure Hatch Incubator Co.,
Clay Center, Neb.

We pay the freight. The Sure Hatch will pay your rent, taxes, and living expenses. Thousands in use, thousands of pleased customers.

The Sure Hatch Hatches Sure




The \$5.00 Champion Brooder

is not a broiler—it never gets hot enough to cook or smother chicks. It is not a refrigerator—it will never get cold enough to chill or freeze. Remains at just the right temperature to produce the best results.

"The Champion is Known by its Work."

It is recognized as the best and most reliable brooder made and is endorsed as such by leading authorities. **Equally good indoors or outdoors.** Don't buy a brooder until you get our descriptive catalogue and testimonials.

J. A. BENNETT & SONS, Box Governor, N. Y.

A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,
PUBLISHERS.

ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There are fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL.

Winter Trade is upon us, and while it is not of such volume in the sale of breeding stock and supplies as is generally the case in Fall it still amounts to considerable. Besides, the Winter advertiser is sowing the seed for a rich harvest in Spring in the sale of eggs for hatching, and extra birds needed to complete breeding pens.

It has been said that advertising is a lottery, with many blanks. To a certain extent that is so. But it is a good rule that says: "Reward comes to the persistent advertiser." It is a mistake to make a splurge in advertising three months in the year and remain idle the remaining nine months. We believe it was John Wanamaker who once said that he would just as soon think of removing the sign from his store as his advertising from the papers. In these days of strong competition, buyers forget, and when in search of an article look up the advertising in a current issue to find where the same can be purchased. The absence from that paper may be the loss of the sale.

The new advertiser cannot understand that it is necessary to be known in order to command big trade. We have in mind a man who gave a yearly contract to a paper, and for the first ten months never had an inquiry, much less a sale. But before the close of that year he had a golden harvest. Had he removed his advertisement before the tenth month he would have had a loss. *Keep your name and business constantly before the people.* That is the secret of success in advertising.

Another pointer for advertisers is to always make your advertising look attractive. Catch lines, phrases, trade marks, pictures, etc., all tend to draw attention. How well is the phrase "That tired feeling" associated with Hood's Sarsaparilla; or "Don't die in the house," with the preparation Rough on Rats; or "He pays the freight," with Jones, the scale man. Look up the poultry advertisements of Arthur G. Duston, Marlboro, Mass., and note the originality. You at once know that the "Ringlet" strain of Barred Rocks belongs to E. B. Thompson.

Be original in your advertising. Make your business known. Don't crowd too

much in a little space. Take a lesson from the advertisement of Wm. H. Child, Hatboro, Pa., I. K. Felch & Son, Natick, Mass., Robt. Atkins, New York City, Johnson & Stokes, Philadelphia, Pa., and others, all found in this issue. They say much in a few words. They tell you what they have for sale and invite correspondence.

That is the way to advertise. An inch of agate measure in our paper will contain 100 words. Is it wise to crowd 100 words in that inch? No. It is far better to make it but 25 words and let the printer use larger type. The eye at once catches head lines; it rarely stops to read fine print.

So now make up your mind to begin advertising in the January number. Begin 1901 with a determination to push business. Take a six months' contract to gain the ten cents a line rate. Remember all advertisements must reach the publication office (Boston, Mass.) by the 5th of the month to insure insertion in that month's issue.

Are you with us?

Wants More. Every now and then we are in receipt of letters from readers of A FEW HENS who ask if the paper cannot be issued twice a month, if not weekly. While we appreciate this sentiment from our readers, they must not lose sight of the fact that it takes considerable effort to get out A FEW HENS even monthly. There is more hard work connected in editing a paper like this—on the brevity plan—than there is in one twice its size which allows long articles to appear in its columns.

Between editing the paper and conducting the experiments on the poultry farm, the editor is hard at work from early to late. If our readers would see the many duties the editor has on the farm, the time it takes to get up the different departments in A FEW HENS, and the large daily mails that must be attended to, they would not only give up the idea of the paper appearing oftener than twelve times a year, but they would be surprised that it appears as often as it does.

To have A FEW HENS appear weekly or twice a month would not allow the editor to boil down facts and crowd a whole volume of information in a few columns, as has been the rule from the start. We know that our subscribers would be better satisfied in quality than quantity, and for that reason we prefer to continue the monthly issues and endeavor to make each number better than the last one.

The following letter is the latest received and will explain itself—and the introductory we give about contains our reply:

F. Blackwell, Harborton, N. J., writes: "Will you kindly take the following suggestion under consideration: Cannot you make the subscription price of A FEW HENS 50 cents, or even \$1.00 a year, and give us an edition twice a month?"

"I learned what little I know of the poultry business (and I have been fairly successful) from the old *Farm-Poultry*, when it was edited by Hunter and Boyer,

I raise poultry for market and eggs, and have a good family trade.

"Now A FEW HENS is all right, but I find that I need a little jarring up and information oftener than once a month, and while I have tried and take several other poultry papers, A FEW HENS is the only one that gets right down to practical facts and information. You are the only one we have to depend upon and I wish you would get the ideas of some one else to co-operate with you and see if you cannot find the way clear to giving us a paper twice a month. Personally, I should like a weekly, but don't want to work you too hard. With best wishes, etc."

Kind Words. P. F. Daniell, Atlanta, Ga.: "A FEW HENS is my favorite paper for knowledge."

Farm Journal, Philadelphia, Pa.: "A FEW HENS is a bright paper."

Frank E. Vaughan, Tenaally, N. J.: "I take half a dozen or more poultry papers regularly—some of them pretty nearly as big as the family Bible. A FEW HENS gives me more of the real stuff than all the rest put together."

Golden Egg, St. Louis, Mo.: "The book 'Profitable Poultry Farming' is a winner in every sense of the word. It is worthy of the pen of the editor of A FEW HENS."

Capt. M. C. McNamara, National Soldiers Home, Va.: "Books and papers duly received. I have been reading poultry literature a good deal for the past eight or ten years, and have had three or four years of practical experience in the poultry business. I am glad to say your doctrine is the soundest and plainest and most comprehensive I have ever read. Truly, if any person of ordinary intelligence, with those papers at their command, are not at least fairly successful, it is time for them to quit and go into some other business."

Walter A. Wagner, Luzerne, Pa.: "A FEW HENS is certainly the best practical poultry paper I have ever seen. I take four."

Dr. F. C. Colby, Bow Mills, N. H.: "I receive A FEW HENS regularly, and enjoy its contents. It refreshes my memory with many things I would otherwise forget, and it presents many good, new things that I did not know before."

M. S. Brown, Patchogue, N. Y.: "I am a constant reader of your paper A FEW HENS, and must say that I get more real practical knowledge of the care of chicks for eggs from it than any paper on the subject I have yet seen. Breeding for feather may be all right for those that like it, but for my part I like the taste of the egg the best. For that purpose I keep Brown and White Leghorns and a small breed of Barred Plymouth Rocks."

An Egg Word comes from Chicago Corner. that a corner has been made on eggs. The men—Armour, Swift and other packers and dealers—who control the corner have already made about a half million dollars, and their profits have only begun, so says the report.

The deal has been engineered by the packers, Armour and Swift, who are the largest owners of refrigerator cars in the country and who have facilities for handling eggs to better advantage than regular dealers. There is also in the combine the Western Cold Storage Company, the Monarch Refrigerator Company, Purcell & Tinkham and C. H. Weaver & Co., all of Chicago. Haskell & Bosworth, of Beatrice, Neb., who buy at 150 stations, are also heavily interested.

A report received December 2, says prices have advanced from 13 to 19 cts. in the past two months, and prospects are for a still higher range. "The consumption has been very heavy and prices of fresh eggs have kept up between 20 and 23 cents for the past few weeks, which is unusual. Not more than 2,500 cases of strictly fresh eggs are held in Chicago today.

The packers started in to buy eggs in April, paying 11 1-2 cents. The combination secured 550,000 cases and stored them away in this city, and it is said that Armour had about 300,000 cases. The cost of carrying them to January is 1 1-2 cts. a dozen, making the cost to the speculators 13 cents."

McKinley's Turkeys. It has been the custom for the past two decades or so, for the President of the United States to feast upon a Thanksgiving turkey raised especially for that purpose by Mr. Henry Vose, of Westerly, R. I. For years this has been an annual donation by Mr. Vose, and no section of the country seemed jealous or decried the value of the carcass so cheerfully sent to grace the President's table.

But up in Berks county, Pennsylvania, lives a Dr. J. S. Trexler, who not only practices medicine but also raises turkeys and dabbles in politics. The doctor formed the opinion that Rhode Island turkeys could not be compared with the Berks county variety, and very eloquently asserted:

"There is just as much difference in the breed of poultry as there is in live stock. Kentucky may be noted for fine horses, other parts of the world for their superior cattle, but in Berks and neighboring counties we have reached the top notch of excellence in the breeding of this popular American bird. Last year I decided to show the President that we have better stock than anywhere else. I selected a prominent young bird and it was fed under the direction of a farmer who has raised them for a generation.

"There is a great deal in the feeding, and that was attended to properly. Acorns and chestnuts, for instance, are a superior diet for a turkey. It gives the meat a delicious flavor, and such a bird is as far removed from the common variety as the ordinary breed of animals is from blooded stock.

"The turkey I sent to President McKinley weighed 32 pounds, and it can truly be called the monarch of Berks."

The fact that the President accepted the Pennsylvania German turkey raised trouble in Rhode Island. The very hint that any other than a Rhode Island turkey was to be carved by the President on Thanksgiving day was sufficient

to call forth a mighty popular protest from that State.

Inquiries sent to Horace Vose, of Westerly, purveyor of Thanksgiving turkeys to the President, developed that he had sent the usual bird, properly trade-marked and labeled, to the President.

Then it became apparent that there had been a stealthy attack on one of the most cherished institutions of the country—one dear to the heart of every Rhode Islander; so dear, indeed, that he will gladly lay down his life in defense of it. The very idea that a low-born, lean, moth-eaten Pennsylvania turkey should rear its drum sticks skyward on the Presidential table at a Thanksgiving dinner was a shock not soon to be forgotten.

The very suggestion of an effort to usurp the place of the Rhode Island turkey, the pride of the barnyard, whose glittering bronze back and fine sweep of tail bespeaks aristocratic birth and tender rearing, with one from a remote region; one that has eked out a miserable existence and foraged for that perchance on siftings of coal mines, was an affront to every Rhode Islander.

Thanksgiving day came and the President ate turkey for his dinner. But where that turkey came from was as deep a diplomatic secret as the answer to the world's famous query, which continues to this day to agitate the minds of man—"Who struck Billy Patterson?"

The President would not tell. Catching their inspiration from their chief, the employees of the White House, from

Secretary Cortelyou down to the chef who did the deed, were as dumb as a graven image.

Rhode Island, believing that its product was "turned down" grew indignant, and declared it would be a long time before Mr. McKinley gets another chance to eat one of Mr. Vose's far-famed birds, unless he buys it in the open market.

Mr. Vose originated the idea of sending turkeys to the White House at Thanksgiving. Every year he picks out a fine young bird and feeds and cares for it with special attention until time to kill and send it.

Mr. McKinley, like his predecessors, has had these turkeys always in plenty of time to be prepared for the table on the holiday. Naturally, Mr. Vose wants his turkeys to reach the White House in the very best condition, and he has to consider the weather when he ships

J. & S. Poultry Supplies.

Don't Look For Eggs

this time of the year unless you feed our

Vigor Meat

and have a Bone Mill

to cut your own green

bone. If you want an

Incubator—Cyphers

is the best on earth.

Our new illustrated

POULTRY SUPPLY CATALOGUE

is free. Shall we send it.

Johnson & Stokes,

217-219 Market St.,

PHILADELPHIA.



Don't Take Our Word.

Test it for yourself. Try it before you buy it. We send a free sample from our Omaha office of

Lee's Lice Killer

to any interested poultry raiser. It will kill all mites and lice on your fowls or hogs and all about the premises. It's the easiest to use. No fuss nor bother. Isn't it worth trying? Healthy fowls mean profitable fowls. Price 35c. per qt. can. \$1 per gallon. We pay freight on \$5 orders—\$6 west of Denver.

LEE'S ROUP AND CHOLERA CURE DOES CURE. Highest endorsement by practical poultrymen. Price 50c. post paid. Send for our big catalogue of all poultry and stock supplies. Samples of Lice Killer and Roup Cure free from Omaha office.

GEORGE H. LEE COMPANY, OMAHA, NEB., OR 8 PARK PLACE, NEW YORK.

Try It Before You Buy It

PURIFINE

The Best Disinfectant For Hen Houses.

Recommended and Used by MICHAEL K. BOYER on his Experimental Farm.

KILLS ALL ODOR AND LEAVES NONE OF ITS OWN.

Stands diluting with thirty parts of water. Put up in pint bottles. Price 50 cents. One dozen bottles sent to any Express Office for \$6.00. Freight prepaid. Full directions for use with each bottle. Send all orders to

A FEW HENS, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

them. This year, because of the unusual warm weather early in the week, he waited until the latest possible day to send his bird. But it was shipped Tuesday, and, being carefully marked, was certain to reach the White House kitchen in plenty of time to be cooked for Thanksgiving.

Mr. McKinley has had three of these birds from Mr. Vose since he was inaugurated.

Mr. Vose has not discussed the matter very much, but it is imagined he feels considerably hurt, and it is possible that the next Westerly turkey shipped to the White House will be in about 1905.

William Hoster, in the *North American*, of Philadelphia, thus sums up the situation:

Two turkeys for Thanksgiving Dinner
Were placed in the White House chest;
And whether the Rhode Island turkey,
Or the Pennsy, McKinley liked best,
Will never be known for certain;
But both are now under his vest,
And a smile of executive blandness
Is eloquent of the rest.

Trap Nests. F. O. Wellcome, of Yarmouth, Maine, sends us the following, which is timely:

"In the minds of many people the trap nest seems to be inseparably associated with the keeping of *continuous* individual egg records.

"This view obtains not only among those who criticize the trap nest idea as being impracticable, but with many who use them. Some inventors of excellent traps have, evidently, also overlooked other and important requisites and advantages.

"The keeping of continuous individual egg records is, however, needlessly limiting the field of the trap nest. There are undoubtedly some poultry keepers who are so situated that they could not possibly use trap nests as traps, throughout the year, yet can be greatly helped by using their nests as traps at special times for special purposes.

"A simple inexpensive trap device that can be applied to any suitable nest box and instantly put into or out of commission, is therefore desirable. The Ideal trap nest is such a combination. When it is practicable to do so, the nests may be used as traps and individual records accurately kept; at other times they can be used as ordinary nests.

"In the breeding season the trap nest enables one to breed from special hens without penning them separately; the presence of other hens, even if they are of a different breed, in no way effecting the result. That this is perfectly feasible with accurate trap nests I know from actual experience for two seasons.

"The making up of breeding pens and the precautions which it is necessary to take to prevent mixing, all of which involves time and labor and costs money, would, in many cases, be unnecessary if accurate trap nests were used.

"Some people have trouble with egg-eating hens; trap nests will correct that evil in short order, and in my experience have entirely prevented it.

"Again, how can one more surely or more easily separate the layers from the non-layers at any time, in order to give them different care as their condition may indicate, than when the layers are

ascertained and put right in his hands by trap nests? The novice cannot do it at all without them, and the trap nest itself will prove to those who use it, that without its aid the expert is liable to err.

"I do not believe that it can ever be successfully disputed that the novice, with good trap nests, can more surely and in less time, weed out the non-layers and drones from a pen of fowls than the most expert poultryman can without them.

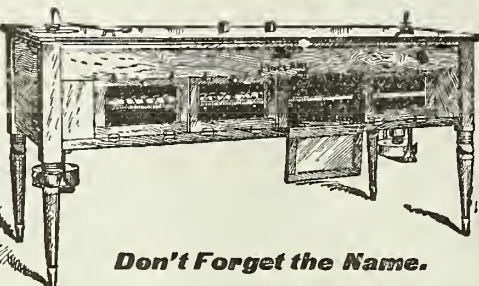
"It is not to be denied that by long experience in handling hens, and many years of hard work and close observation, men have acquired great skill in detecting the unprofitable members of the flock; but we have an abundance of evidence from many of these same experts that it is not an exact science, and that trap nests give information impossible to obtain without them.

"I would ask those who may think that the use of trap nests is only a fad to be soon dropped, to remember that *continuous* individual record keeping, or pedigree breeding, are not the only uses for the practical trap nest; and even when so used that they do not necessarily require as much time and labor as many suppose or some devote to them."

DON'T FORGET THE NAME

Here is an incubator with a hen-sense system of ventilating; with the most sensitive, sensible and practical regulator made; with 19 years good work to its credit, and with good words from every user. It's the

PINELAND Incubator



Don't Forget the Name.

It's absolutely safe, perfectly simple, and as sure as anything can be in this world. Wouldn't you like to know more about it? If so, let us send you our catalogue free.

Our brooders are just as good as our incubators. There are none to equal them.

PINELAND INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO.,
Box E, Jamesburg, N. J.

FOR SALE!

GREEN BONE CUTTER, Mann's No. 2, in perfect condition. Can be used by one man, two men, or with power. Cost \$22.00; price now \$11.00. GEO. R. BICKLEY, Orange, N. J.

WHITE Wyandottes ONLY.

ENTIRE time given to breeding for eggs and meat. Large, vigorous February and March cockerels, from unrelated matings, above standard weight.

We Have Some Beauties at \$2 and \$3.

Yearling Parents of above, \$2.

We will try to please.

HOMESTEAD POULTRY FARM, Hopkinton, Mass

Colby's Some years ago we paid the Rocks. poultry farm of Dr. F. E.

Colby, Bow Mills, N. H., a visit, and was surprised to see such a large collection of fine looking Barred Plymouth Rocks. The doctor at that time was not an advertiser in the poultry papers, but conducted his business on strictly the market plan. Several times a week his wagon drove to the city of Concord, delivering goods and taking new orders. As most of his stock went to a retail market he was making a good profit.

But while the doctor was breeding for meat and eggs, he did not lose sight of the fact that gradually he could improve the Standard markings of his

WHITE WYANDOTTE Cockerels bred from prolific laying (Hunter) stock. Not fancy. WM. WILSON, Normal, Nebraska.

EXCHANGE. \$20 Mann Bone Cutter, nearly new for hot air incubator. H. P. NOTTAGE, Goshen, Mass.

STANDARD BRED S. C. Brown Leghorns. Prices low. Need room for winter. FRANK M. STONE, Mutual, Ohio.

THE IDEAL TRAP NEST MONTHLY RECORD SHEETS 25 cts. per dozen; \$1.50 per 100. Editor Boyer writes: "That is the most complete affair I have yet seen; send me 100 copies." Editor Boyer also uses and recommends the IDEAL TRAP NEST. Literature free. F. O. WELLCOME, Yarmouth, Maine.

UTILITY White Wyandotte COCKERELS.

Sired by a "stay white" Hawkins Cockerel. **ROBERT ATKINS,** No. 26 West 15th Street, New York City. Plant—Esopus-on-Hudson.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Fine laying strain. Grand cockerels and pullets for sale at \$2 each. Big bargains. Order quick as supply is limited. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammon, N. J.

WHITE WYANDOTTES,

HEAVY LAYERS.

Bred for practical purposes. We use scratching sheds. Alternate male birds (keeping trio for each pen) and get strong fertile eggs in winter. Eggs in January, \$1.50 per 13; \$3.50 per 50; \$6.50 per 100. Can be called for at store if preferred.

I. J. STRINGHAM, 105 Park Place, N. Y. City. Or Glen Cove, Long Island.

EVERY BOY HIS OWN TOY MAKER.



Tells how to make all kinds Toys, Steam Engines, Photo Cameras, Windmills, Microscopes, Electric Telegraphs, Telephones, Magic Lanterns, Aeolian Harps, Boats, from a rowboat to a schooner; also Kites, Balloons, Masks, Wagons, Toy Houses, Bow and Arrow, Pop Guns, Slings, Sticks, Fishing Tackle, Rabbit and Bird Traps, and many others. All is made so plain that a boy can easily make them. 20 handsome illus. This great book by mail 10c, 3 for 25c. C. E. DEPUY, Pub, Syracuse, N. Y.

HOLMES' SPECIAL Condition Powder FOR POULTRY.

This powder is carefully prepared on modern scientific principles, is sterling in quality, containing nothing that is injurious or objectionable. It supplies all of the spicy, peppery ingredients which nature demands and must be provided to become successful with growing, molting and laying fowl. Editor Collingwood, of Rural New-Yorker, writes nearly a column and a half in regard to it. It increased his egg yield from one a day to sixteen in twelve days. It excels all others.

For a short time only, I will sell one can, 20 cents; by mail, postpaid, 30 cents; two cans, 35 cents; by mail, postpaid, 55 cents; seven cans, f. o. b., Wethersfield, \$1.00. Limited. Address,

H. HOLMES, Wethersfield, Conn.

stock. So carefully did he follow this line—closely watching that the utility part would not suffer—that today he has a grand lot of finely marked birds, with egg records that are a credit. In all the New England shows he sent specimens of his stock and in almost every case came out a winner. Few men could be so successful in both lines of the industry.

Dr. Colby's plant today consists of one house 80 x 10 feet, divided into eight pens.

Three houses 40 x 12 feet, divided into four pens.

Two houses, 32 x 10 feet, divided into four pens.

One house, 10 x 18 feet, for surplus stock.

One scratching shed house, 10 x 32 feet.

He has six acres of land fenced in with four-foot hen wire, and a trout brook runs through four of the chicken yards. He also has over 100 plum and 100 apple trees for Summer shade. The plums are mostly of the Japan varieties, while the apples are Baldwin, King, etc. (Winter fruit). Strawberry culture is a side issue on the farm.

Thirty pens of layers and breeding stock are kept on the place and special attention is paid to dark eggs and prolific laying. The doctor writes that this season he raised about 600 of the finest birds he ever had—and that is saying a great deal.

Dr. Colby believes in good feed and plenty of it to make profitable and satisfactory stock.

In the morning he feeds a mash composed of beef scraps, bran, meal, middlings and a little linseed.

At noon, vegetables.

At night, cracked corn, wheat and barley, varied as necessary to keep the birds hungry and active.

"Grit is as essential as grain, both for the chickens and their owner," writes the doctor.

Being personally acquainted with Dr. Colby and his Barred Plymouth Rocks, A FEW HENS can safely recommend both to its readers.

Book on A home without a pet of Pets. some kind is dreary enough.

It has been said that a woman who loves neither flowers nor pets cares but very little for the attractiveness of home. Many a husband who "stays out late at night" excuses himself on the grounds that there are no attractions at home. This excuse may be a poor one, but the wise woman will take a hint, nevertheless.

But what we started out to say was to acknowledge the receipt of Biggle's Pet Book. This is book No. 7, of the series Biggle Farm Library, published by Wilmer Atkinson Co., publishers *Farm Journal*, Philadelphia, Pa. The book is cloth bound, like the rest of the series, and sells at 50 cents a copy, postpaid. The illustrations in it are many and grand, while the contents of the book is devoted to dogs, cats, ponies, goats, sheep, rabbits, guinea pigs, squirrels, rats, mice, pigeons, bantams, canaries, etc. There is not a dull page in the entire book. There is plenty of interest in it for both the children and the grown-up folks, and we would advise

every family in which A FEW HENS circulates to add this neat and valuable book to their library.

Green Bone. It hardly seems worth while to devote a great deal of attention to the discussion of the value of green cut bone in the feeding ration of laying hens and growing fowls. The matter has been settled beyond any question by practical experience. We note, however, in one of the recent green bone catalogues (that issued by Humphrey & Sons, Joliet, Ills.) testimony from a dozen or so of the most important men in the poultry world, which seems to put it in a definite and positive form. For instance, Mr. A. C. Hawkins, of Lancaster, Mass., says:

"I always feed green cut bone to my laying and breeding fowls during the Winter and Spring months, as it greatly increases the production and fertility of the eggs. Green cut bone is always a profitable investment, when fed judiciously."

James Rankin, probably the best known duck breeder in the world, writes from his duck ranch at South Easton, Mass.:

"We wish to say that we have used green bone as feed for ducks, Light Brahma and Plymouth Rock fowl, and consider that it cannot be beaten as an egg producer. It gives vigor to the fowl

and vitality to the egg, especially in Winter, when the eggs are higher in price, and are used the most for purposes of incubation. It is really superior to all other animal foods."

Chas. McClave, of New London, Ohio., judge of the fowl exhibit at the World's Fair, says:

"In regard to the use of green cut bone as a food for poultry, will say it is one of the essential good things in the poultry yard. Where it can be had and used fresh at all times, it is almost indispensable. The results of feeding green cut bone to poultry are very noticeable from the start, and it is not surprising to know it is very generally used over the country by up-to-date and successful poultrymen."

A. F. PUTNEY, SOUTH NATICK, MASS.,

will sell six yearling breeders, with one unrelated cockerel, for \$10.00.

COCKERELS

that are healthy, vigorous and handsome. Bred for business from heavy layers, and are unsurpassed for table poultry. Prices \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 each.

STANDARD WHITE WYANDOTTES.

TERMS—SAME AS RENT.

SMALL POULTRY PLANT, about 3 acres. hen houses, barn, out buildings, excellent two-story house, fruit trees, etc. In Hammonton. Price \$1200. Will be sold to a good party on terms same as rent. **MICHAEL K. BOYER,** Hammonton, N. J.



RIGHT ON TOP

There is where our 12 years' record has placed us,
and there is where we intend keeping the

MARILLA

**INCUBATORS
AND
BROODERS.**

(Hot Air or Hot Water.)

There are other incubators, but none with so perfect a system of regulating temperature, moisture and ventilation. There is none which gives better satisfaction, or larger hatches. The Marilla Brooder is the only one which prevents overcrowding and trampling. We guarantee Incubator and Brooder. Money back if you want it. Send 2c for catalog.

MARILLA INCUBATOR COMPANY, BOX 13, ROSE HILL, N. Y.

WINTER EGGS

HOW TO GET THEM.

Selection, Care and Food of Laying Hens.

The above is the title of a new book. The latest in the Farm-Poultry series; **PRICE 25 cts.**

In many respects it will be the most valuable book we have ever published, because it treats of one subject only, of which every poultry raiser, large or small, wants to know all that is new, or best, namely, how to get the most eggs in winter when prices are high.

THE BOOK will be sent postpaid on receipt of 25 cents in cash or postage stamps; or we will send the book and a year's subscription to Farm-Poultry both for \$1.

SPECIAL OFFER.

FARM-POULTRY,	Semi Monthly one year	-	-	-	\$1.00
A FEW HENS,	Monthly,	-	-	-	.25
WINTER EGGS,	HOW TO GET THEM.	-	-	-	.25

ALL THREE FOR \$1.10.

Send all orders to us with cash, P. O. or Express money order.

FARM-POULTRY PUB. CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

F. H. Shellabarger, of West Liberty, Iowa, one of the best known poultry judges, says:

"I find from feeding green cut bone that we get much faster growing chicks, also larger and healthier ones. It pays to feed it to laying hens, as the eggs hatch better, and a much larger number of eggs will be the result."

W. S. Russell, another prominent judge and breeder, writes:

"I feed green cut bone to my fowls the year round, and have done so for ten years. No poultry raiser can get along without it."

Other prominent breeders write in the same strain. With such testimony before him can any poultry raiser doubt the value of cut green bone?

Poultry At Woodbine, N. J., on November 26, the new Baron de Hirsch Agricultural and Industrial School building was dedicated. This marks an era in practical Jewish advancement in this part of the world.

The editor of A FEW HENS regretted very much that other business arrangements prevented his accepting the kind invitation extended him to participate in the exercises.

The aim of the school is to prepare practical, intelligent farmers, who will be fitted to act as valued assistants to other farmers or work profitably farms of their own. This school is the only one of its kind in existence in the United States.

The practical work of the school consists of taking care of the stables and animals, work in the field, garden, nursery, poultry yards, dairy, hot houses, incubator and brooder houses and apiary. It also includes a course of studies.

The school was awarded at the Paris Exposition the grand prize for its educational exhibit in Class 2; a silver medal in Class 5 for agricultural exhibit and another medal in Class 43 for its pomological and horticultural exhibits. These were the highest awards made to any institution or school of the same character in this or any other country.

The faculty is especially interested in developing the poultry department, and we expect in the near future to give some account of the workings of the same.

Practical Of all the poultrymen Wyandottes. we know, none have impressed us so much as worthy of success as has Wm. H. Child, of Hathboro, Pa.

As we stated a year or more ago, Mr. Child is an invalid and must wheel about the place on a chair, having no use of his limbs. Yet he is not discouraged and takes the deepest interest in his stock and the business in general. With all his misfortune, Mr. Child is fortunate—fortunate in having such a worthy wife, for upon her depends the general superintending of the poultry plant, while Mr. Child does the clerical work. It is a grand, good team. Both are experts in their special lines and the stock and treatment that comes from the Child Poultry Farm is always of the very best.

Mr. Child is practical in his ideas. In a personal letter to us he says:

"I am going to give more attention next season to pedigree breeding, *i. e.*, starting with hens or pullets of known records, and sell stock based on that, no matter about the show points. This will make more work, but I guess it will give better returns."

The brooder house on the Child plant is 40 x 10 feet, divided into nine pens, fitted up with Pineland indoor brooders.

For the breeding stock a scratching shed house of 100 feet in length is erected. This is divided into four pens of 10 x 16 feet to hold from ten to fifteen fowls, and three pens 10 x 12 feet to hold not more than twelve fowls. There are front and back yards to these pens. The front yards are sixty feet deep; back yards, seventy feet. The fences are made of two feet of boards and four feet of M. M. S. wire netting. Japanese plum and peach trees are in all the yards.

Do Your Chicks Die?

Don't lose them after you have gone to the trouble of hatching them.

FIDELITY FOOD

For Young Chicks

will save their lives and promote their growth. Recommended by leading poultrymen for chicks just out of the shell. Composed of nutritious portions of selected seeds, grains, etc., with all injurious parts eliminated. Fidelity Food for Young Chicks, used by leading fanciers and practical poultrymen, 25 lbs., \$1.25; 50 lbs., \$2.00; in bbls., \$3.50 per 100 lbs. Circulars free.

PINELAND INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO.,
Box E, Jamesburg, New Jersey.

We also put up food for egg production and a good food for fattening.

BANKS' FAMOUS
LIGHT BRAHMAS,
Buff Wyandottes, Buff Cochin Bantams.
Bread winners; show winners. Cockerels \$1, \$2, \$3 and \$5 each; hens and pullets at \$1 and \$2 each; few B. Wyandottes 75c. each. These are extra rare bargains, to close out over two-thirds of entire stock. Send for circular. Erie Poultry Yards, Box 168, Crittenden, N.Y.

WHITE Wyandotte
Yearling hens. First-class layers. \$2.00 each.
MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

**Get
the
Best**

**PINE TREE...
FARM STOCK.**

Young, vigorous, healthy, high-scoring, prize-winning. 23 varieties. Send for big catalog. Eggs by sitting or 100 and guaranteed.

D. A. MOUNT,
Box C, Jamesburg, N. J.
The Pine Tree Farm.

B. L. MINORCAS
EXCLUSIVELY.

High class S. C. B. Minorcas, bred for 11 years for heavy laying and exhibition. Trap nests in all pens. Farm raised, strong and vigorous. These birds have high station, long back, deep bodies, large combs and lobes. Very fine color. Chicks hatched March, April and May. Pullets \$1 and \$2; cockerels \$2, \$3, \$5. Hens from spring breeding pen \$1 and \$2. MRS. GEO. E. MONROE, Box B, Dryden, N. Y.
Member Am. B. Minorca Club.

THE IDEAL

TRAP NEST. (PATENTED.)

The Ideal has practical features found in no other nest, which overcome all valid objections to the individual system. A thoroughly scientific invention, yet simple and inexpensive. Particulars free.

F. O. WELLCOME, Yarmouth, Maine.

An orchard of half an acre is used by the youngsters after being taken from the brooders. A large room in the barn is also used for extra cockerels. A large yard is attached to the farm.

Mr. Child hatches by artificial methods, for which purpose he has in use a Cyphers, Monarch and Monitor incubators.

[Questions Briefly Answered.—Continued.]

Probably the cause of your fowls passing blood in their droppings is due to costiveness.

W. E. R.: We do not know of any sure cure for "going light." It is, we believe, due to some liver trouble. When we notice a fowl droopy we give her a Parsons' Purgative Pill at night, and change her location, giving her more or less free range, according to the condition of the weather.

C. V. G.: The most complete book on poultry diseases that we have ever seen is Dr. Sanborn's Poultry Doctor. We will send a copy for 50 cents.

S. D. F.: All grits are good, and invaluable in warding off indigestion. Oyster shell is not grit.

P. O.: To thoroughly disinfect the poultry houses we do not know of anything so good as burning sulphur in it. If, after doing so the houses is white-washed, it will be almost impossible for any disease germ to remain in it.

BROILERS AND ROASTERS.

E. E. G.: We never bred the Buff Plymouth Rocks, but believe they will make as good broilers as any other variety of Plymouth Rocks. We do not believe, however, they are so good as the Wyandottes, and yet there can hardly be so much difference that it would pay to sacrifice the one breed for the other.

M. N. B.: The Silver Wyandottes are just as good for broilers as the White

I MUST MOVE and have the following for sale at bargain prices:
8 BUFF ORPINGTON Pullets, 4 Cockerels.
13 BUFF LEGHORN Pullets, 1 Cock, 1 Cockerel.
1 Kelsey Printing Press, 5 x 8 Chase, 7 fonts type. Just the thing for printing your own circulars, cards, etc. Address, L. A. CORNING, Warsaw, N. Y.

BUFF LEGHORN COCKERELS. Arnold strain. Solid Golden Buff. First Premium at Suffolk County Fair, Riverhead. A few fine May hatched Cockerels for sale cheap.
W. DARLING, South Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

DANDY geared Green Bone Cutter used one season, perfect order, easy running. Cost \$16.00; will sell for \$10.00.
J. T. ANGELL, Pine Plains, N. Y.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK Cockerels from stock bred for layers of brown eggs, broilers and roasters. Two dollars and up. Write.
A. P. WINSLOW, Freeport, Maine.

NO. 2 MANN BONE CUTTER, with extra 60 pound balance wheel. 60-Egg Lincoln Hatcher. Both in good order and going cheap. Box 222, Apponaug, R. I.

Central Poultry Yards.
WHITE WYANDOTTES

Brown Egg strain. Eggs \$1.25 per sitting; \$6 per 100. CHAS. K. NELSON, Prop., Box 633, Hammonton, N. J.

WHITE P. ROCKS
Bred for Utility and Exhibition. Ahead in P. P. Egg contest. Winners at Pittsburg, Hagerstown, Danbury and Torrington. Stock on approval. Eggs \$2 per 13. Fair hatch guaranteed.
FREDRICK HOERLE, Torrington, Conn.

variety, with the only difference that the Silvers show dark pin feathers which the Whites do not.

K. G. S.: There is not a better table fowl in existence than the Black Langshan, but the prejudice against their carcass when dressed makes them unprofitable to handle for that purpose.

H. Y. K.: We keep both White and Barred Plymouth Rocks and can find no difference whatever in their meat qualities. Both are good.

T. R. E.: We prefer a cross of Game upon either an American or Asiatic variety, instead of Game in its purity, for market purposes.

J. L.: The Indian Game is a good table fowl, but for some reason or other market poultrymen do not keep it. Some claim it is no better than the Plymouth Rock, and we have heard some say it is not so good. But this much we know: there is no better table fowl than Indian Game crossed upon either Brahmas or Plymouth Rocks.

H. G. F.: The Houdan is a very good table fowl and would be more popular were it not for the crest on its head, which makes it an easy prey to hawks, as well as an easy prey to rounp should the crest become water soaked.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. R.: The Evans Root Cutter is manufactured by the Evans Manufacturing Co., Detroit, Mich., from whom circulars can be secured.

W. M. F.: A catalogue of the American Rose Comb Brown Leghorn Club can be secured by addressing the Secretary, Charles M. Zink, New Albany, Ind.

H. M. H.: The M. M. S. fencing has given very good satisfaction on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm. It stands the storms well and requires posts only every 16 feet.

J. I. P.: Wages of experts differ. A man who is a master of the artificial methods, and knows how to run a general poultry plant, can command \$1,000 a year. But, we might add, men of such ability are scarce. There are plenty of them who have conceit enough to believe they know it all, and they comprise a class that are dear at any price.

L. O. Y.: We do not like partnership in poultry business. There are very few cases where such arrangements have proved profitable. Better begin small, use your own capital and go it alone.

Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

Let people talk of Bantams,
Of Polands, Hamburgs trig,
Minorcas and Black Spanish,
And Brahmas, Langshans big;
Let them talk.

But far the finest poultry
That e'er are hatched from eggs
Are those that best develop
The strongest scratching legs;
Let them talk.

—M. G. Kains, in *Farm and Home*.

Profit by your mistakes.
Judge a man by his hens.

Are you easily disheartened?

Does bad weather discourage you?

Have you got the snow shovel handy?

No animal will be profitable if neglected. Gentleness is a virtue in the poultry yard.

Always aim to improve your stock and farm.

Always buy the best; it is the cheapest in the end.

What will succeed with one man may fail with another.

Filthy runs and dirty houses may do for hogs but not hens.

The moment you think you know it all, get out of business.

Experiments may be expensive, but they are our best teachers.

Neatness and convenience are useful implements on the poultry farm.

Overcrowding your pens in Winter will cripple cold weather egg production.

Putting off until tomorrow what you should do today is often the cause of failure.

Clean out the chick coops and put them away so as not to be exposed to Winter storms and snows.

Farm Journal says 40 hens can no more eat from one plate than 40 people. Broadcast grain and provide long troughs for feeding soft food.

Justice: "What were you doing in Colonel Pullet's chicken coop?"

Uncle Mose: "Fo' de Lawd, judge, I was jes takin' de census."—*Harlem Life*.

Lee, Lake and Lambert are well known manufacturers of Lice Remedies. Rather a coincidence that lice and the three prominent gentlemen should begin with "L."

Farm and Home attributes poultry failures to cold, dark, dirty, unventilated poultry houses; improper food; unintelligent feeding and bad care; keeping a breed of fowls not egg producers.

Fanciers' Review says the trap nest has come to stay. By its acts it has proved its efficiency and all poultrymen are now united in the opinion that it is no longer a convenience, but really a practical necessity.

Charles J. Stuckey, in *American Poultry Journal*, says it is tiresome to hear so much about "bad luck" in the poultry business. If these persons could stop the cracks in the house, keep the door shut at night, and have a solid dirt, gravel or cement floor which can be kept clean, we should hear less about luck. It is care that wins and not luck.

Mistakes in poultry keeping should not discourage, says *American Stock Keeper*. Mistakes are object lessons that arouse one to a sense of closer observation and point out facts. The man who makes the same mistake twice is not a very observing one. Carelessness and mistakes are near relatives.

Success depends on management in any kind of business, says *American Stock Keeper*. No business will manage itself. The farmer who pays little or no attention to his flock should only expect little or no returns. Business attention given to a flock of properly housed hens would be a great revelation to many farmers.

A great many poultry failures are due to commencing with several breeds. *American Stock Keeper* thinks no one should try more than one breed until they have proved beyond doubt their ability to handle the one in a way to get good results. Make a study of the breed. Each breed has distinct peculiarities which need to be humored a little.

BUFF ROCKS only. 7 years' experience breeding and mating. 25 selected cockerels, pairs, trios and breeding pens. A. A. GROFF, Lederachville, Pa.

COCKERELS. WHITE WYANDOTTES \$1.00 each. W. G. HALE, Nortonhill, N. Y.

RED BELGIAN HARES \$1.50 up, according to quality. Good Does, bred to Victor, winner 1st New York, 1900, for sale cheap. Write us your wants. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

Hawkins' Barred Rocks, Duston's White Wyandottes. I have a limited number of birds from the 1900 matings of these noted breeders for sale. Prices reasonable. Write me. G. D. ELMER, Erving, Mass.

"While They Last."

For want of room will sell choice Buff Cochins Bantam c'h's at \$1 each. They are grand little Cochins and will please you. Ford Bros., Oak Hill, N. Y.

TABER'S White WYANDOTTES P. ROCKS

are bred for utility as well as standard points. Eggs \$1.00 for 13; \$3.00 for 50. Young stock for sale. MAPLE GROVE POULTRY YARDS, S. A. TABER, Prop., (Alle. Co.,) Pike, N. Y.

Lenola Poultry Yards. Barred Ply. Rocks, Pekin Ducks.

Bred on practical lines from pedigree layers. Bred and selected for practical purposes, from strong, vigorous stock. This season's breeding stock for sale now. April-hatched Cockerels and Pullets for sale in the Fall. Satisfaction guaranteed. WM. WATMORE, Post Office, Moorestown, N. J.

THOSE CHICKS YOU LOST LAST YEAR

might have all been saved if you had given them our

Star Specific No. 2

It is not a cure-all, raise-the-dead powder, but a specific for cholera and diarrhoea, and for *nothing else*. It is guaranteed to cure, or fed occasionally, will prevent. Further, we give our word that it is our honest belief that no other remedy sold is nearly as sure, safe, and quick in action.

All dealers, small bottles, 25c.; by mail, 30c. 1 lb. wooden bottles, 50c.; by mail, 60c.

STAR INCUBATOR CO., 22 Church St., Bound Brook, N. J.

No. 7. Food for Small Chicks.

No. 8. Disinfect Insect Powder.

No. 5. For Inactive Males.

No. 6. For Indigestion.

STAR SPECIFICS

Guaranteed to cure.

No. 1. Cholera (in old Fowls).

No. 2. Same (for chicks).

No. 3. Egg Food and Tonic.

No. 4. For Colds and Croup.

Belated Odds and Ends.

Here are Some Odds and Ends That Came in Our Mails Too Late to be Classified, but Interesting Nevertheless.

The official premium list of the sixth annual exhibition of the Boston Poultry Association, to be held at Mechanics' Building, January 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, pays special attention to classification for dressed poultry, eggs, etc. This department will be under the charge of a practical poultrydealer.

For the heaviest, best meated and best dressed turkey, old, male or female, 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

Heaviest, best meated and best dressed turkey, young, male or female. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

Best meated and best dressed capon, size and weight to be considered. 1st prize \$3.00; 2nd prize \$2.00; 3rd prize, 1.00.

Best meated and best dressed capon raised in Massachusetts, size and weight to be considered. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

Best meated and best dressed goose or gander, any breed. 1st prize \$3.00; 2nd prize \$2.00.

Best pair of chickens, any breed or kind, softness of flesh, color of skin and legs, and quality of dressing to be considered. 1st prize \$5.00; 2nd prize \$3.00; 3rd prize \$2.00.

Best pair of fowl, any breed or kind, quality of flesh, color of skin, method of dressing and size to be considered. 1st prize \$5.00; 2nd prize \$3.00; 3rd prize \$1.

Heaviest and best dressed pair of fowl. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

Best meated and best colored broilers ranging from 2 1-2 to 3 1-2 lbs., per pair. 1st prize \$3.00; 2nd prize \$2.00.

Best meated and best colored pair of squab broilers, 1 1-2 lbs. or under. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

Best meated and best colored pair of young ducks, any breed, size and quality of flesh to be considered. 1st prize \$3.00; 2nd prize \$2.00.

The following special prizes are also offered:

For the most yellow skinned and yellow legged pair of chickens, \$2.00.

For best meated pair of chickens, Brahmas, \$2.00.

For best meated pair of chickens, Cochins, \$2.00.

For best meated pair of chickens, Plymouth Rocks, \$2.00.

For best meated pair of chickens, Wyandottes, \$2.00.

For best meated pair of chickens, any other named variety, \$2.00.

Softness of flesh, color of skin and legs, and perfection of dressing to be considered.

For the most yellow skinned and yellow legged pair of fowl, \$2.00

For best pair of fowl, Brahmas, \$2.00.

For best pair of fowl, Cochins, \$2.00.

For best pair of fowl, Plymouth Rocks, \$2.00.

For best pair of fowl, Wyandottes, \$2.00.

For best pair of fowl, any other variety, \$2.00.

Quality of flesh, skin and legs and perfection of dressing to be considered.

Most yellow skinned and yellow legged pair of broilers, \$2.

For the largest and best display of dressed poultry, bred and produced by one exhibitor, \$10.00.

For the largest and best display of dressed poultry, game, etc. by dealers, an engraved diploma.

For the best one dozen brown eggs. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

For the best one dozen white eggs. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

For the darkest colored one dozen brown eggs, \$2.00.

For the whitest one dozen eggs, \$2.00.

For the best and heaviest thirty dozen case of fancy fresh brown eggs, \$10.00.

For the best and heaviest thirty dozen case of fancy fresh white eggs, \$10.00.

For the best one dozen duck eggs. 1st prize \$2.00; 2nd prize \$1.00.

The following special prizes are also offered for eggs:

For the best one dozen Brahma eggs any variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen Cochins eggs any variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen Wyandotte eggs any variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen Plymouth Rock eggs any variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen Leghorn eggs any variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen eggs, any other pure bred variety, \$2.00.

For the best one dozen eggs from any kind crossbred hens, \$2.00.

M. M. Johnson, inventor of the Sure Hatch incubator, sends the following well-timed remarks on the subject of juvenile poultry raisers:

As time goes on it becomes more necessary to give our boys and girls practical education. Agricultural colleges are springing up in every state. We are sending our next generation of farmers to these schools now to fit them for battling with close competition on all matters that pertain to successful farming.

These schools of training are commendable, but the large per cent. of the

farmers in the future will come from the farms without the advantage of science as developed at these schools. It therefore stands us in hand to make the best use of our home schools, the farms. Every boy and girl likes to own something, and for the educational purposes alone, they should own something. Nothing fills the bill better than an incubator and a flock of poultry. It cultivates a sense of care and business management that would be lacking when they were called on to do business with a competing public. It is in their time of life that impressions are permanent, good or bad. The writer of this was a boy once, raised on a farm; owned every colt—or rather owned a new colt each Spring—owned it until it became real valuable, then he had the privilege of trading it for the youngest again and was educated to think the young colt more valuable for a boy than a colt old enough to bring a good price. The result of this line of training and encouragement, he landed in business at twenty-one a regular pumpkin-head to do business. The farm had no attractions for him, he could see nothing in it but plough and harrow and doing without money from crop to crop. Am not blaming Dad; he simply did not know how to educate a boy. Had their been an agricultural college or other school that occurred to him to be a good

FINE COCKERELS AND PULLETS FROM COBURN'S Barred Plymouth Rocks.

They are the fancy and utility kind, and have been bred for years on these lines. To reduce stock will offer bargains for the next thirty days. Circular free.

F. A. P. COBURN,
E-759 Stevens Street, Lowell, Mass.

LIGHT BRAHMAS. Highest standard—Best show record. Eggs \$3 a sitting. Selected young birds of superior merit at fair prices for fine specimens. ROBERT HAMILTON, Ben-Avon, Pa.

POULTRY CUTS at CUT PRICES.
CATALOGUE FREE.
Harper Eng. Co., Columbus, O.



EVERY MOTHER SHOULD
Have it in the House
To cure the common ailments that may occur in every family as long as life has woes.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT
has been used and indorsed since 1810, to relieve or cure every form of Pain and Inflammation: Is Safe, Soothing, Sure. Otherwise it could not have existed for almost a Century.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT
Is strictly a family remedy for Internal as much as External use
To cure Colds, Croup, Coughs, Catarrh, Cramps and Colic it acts promptly.

Originated by an old Family Physician. Trust what time has indorsed. Sold by Druggists. Price 25 and 50c. Book Treatment of Disease sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

thing for a boy, money would not have stood in the way. As above stated, he was not aware that he run the best school on earth right at home among realities. Of course, we would rather the farmer would buy his boy an incubator, but rather than see the boys grow up without ideas of business care and management, it would certainly pay to really give them a start, even if it was nothing more valuable than a hen and chicks. Boys and girls like to own something; as soon as they are old enough to play marbles or jump the rope, they will want to own the marbles and rope at least.

In buying an incubator for the young poultry raiser, it is just as important that he have a good one—one large enough for business and well enough made to do the work properly—as it is that his father has a good implement for his work. Poor tools discourage the users. Give the youngsters a fair chance.

Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of November—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

NEW YORK.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh eggs.....	31	30	30 1-2
Broilers, dressed.....	18	14	16
Fowls, dressed.....	11	9	10
Ducks, dressed.....	13	10	11 1-2
Spring Turkeys, dressed..	12	9	10 1-2
Turkey hens, dressed....	10	9	9 1-2
Turkey toms, dressed....	9	8	8 1-2
Old Roosters, dressed.....	5 1-2	5	5 1-4
Geese, dressed.....	10	8	9
Fowls, live.....	9	7 1-2	8 3-4
Chickens, live.....	9	8	8 1-2
Roosters, live.....	6	4	5
Turkeys, live.....	9	7	8
Ducks, live, pair.....	.65	.50	.57 1-2
Geese, live, pair.....	\$1.00	\$1.37	\$1.18 1-2

PHILADELPHIA.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh Eggs.....	28	26	27
Hens, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Hens, dressed.....	11	9	10
Old Roosters, live.....	7	6 1-2	6 3-4
Old Roosters, dressed.....	7	6 1-2	6 3-4
Spring Chickens, live.....	10	8 1-2	9 1-4
Spring Chickens, dressed	15	11	13

BOSTON.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, nearby and Cape....	40	32	36
Chickens, dressed.....	18	15	17 1-2
Fowls, dressed.....	12	10	11
Roosters, dressed.....	7 1-2	7	7 1-4
Ducks, dressed.....	14	10	12
Turkeys, old.....	10	8	9
Turkeys, Spring.....	12	9	10 1-2
Broilers.....	18	16	17
Spring Chickens, live.....	12	10	11

CHICAGO.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, fresh.....	24	20	22
Chickens, hens, scalded....	7 1-2	6 1-2	7
Chickens, hens, alive.....	7	6	6 1-2
Spring Chickens, live.....	7	6 1-2	6 3-4
Roosters, live.....	5	5	5
Ducks, live, old.....	7 1-2	7	7 1-4
Ducks, Spring, dressed....	9	8 1-2	8 3-4
Geese, live, per dozen...	\$6.25	\$6.00	\$6.12 1-2
Turkey hens, dressed.....	8	7	7 1-2
Turkey hens, live.....	7	6	6 1-2
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	8	6	7
Turkey gobblers, live.....	7	6	6 1-2

IT COST US \$4,000 Costs You 15c

We have spent \$4,000 on our new book "How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators." It tells it all. Leading poultry men have written special articles for it. 192 pages, 8x11 in. Illustrated. It's as good as **Cyphers Incubator**—and it's the best. Out hatch any other machine. 16 page circular free. Send 15 cts. in stamps for \$4,000 book No. 29.

Address nearest office. **CYPHERS INCUBATOR CO.**
Boston, Mass. Wayland, N. Y. Chicago, Ill.

BARRED ROCK Cockerels.

Best, \$1 each; younger, 75 cents each.
FROM GOOD LAYING STRAIN. WOODWARD M. POFFENBERGER, Bakersville, Wash. Co., Maryland.

NIAGARA FARM
WHITE WYANDOTTES and
MAMMOTH PEKIN DUCKS

are hard to beat. BREEDERS, yearlings or young, \$1.50 each.

All kinds of Poultry Supplies

Niagara Poultry Food contains Cut Clover and best quality Beef Scrap. No green food, bone or meat necessary if you use our Food. Price \$1.50 per 100 pounds. Circular and samples free. Write us. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

GINSENG—Book all about it 4c. Tells how to grow this great money maker.
Write to-day. AMERICAN GINSENG GARDENS, Rose Hill, N. Y.

50 WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS

at \$2 each; also pairs, trios and pens. All have rich yellow legs and beaks, small combs, and are good shape. Are bred from great layers. Order at once. STEVENS & CO., Wilson, N. Y.

TAME QUAIL. Send 25 cents for book telling all about raising Quails for pets or market. Quails \$2.50 a pair. Mrs. C. GROSS, Cole Camp, Mo.

Buying Eggs for Incubator use.

A half score years ago there was really no known means of hatching chicks except with the old hen. There were a few incubators on the market, but the general public knew nothing of them. They were operated principally by breeders, while the average farmer had but a vague idea of them at all. With their continued use, and by the rapid strides made by a few of the leading incubator manufacturers, the public soon became aware of the fact that there were successful incubators on the market. Of the thousands who have purchased incubators many have cast them aside. Poor hatches, wakeful nights, and every other drawback which seems to stand in the way of a successful enterprise, confronted the operator. Many made the mistake of selecting an inferior machine, but a greater majority made the mistake of buying their eggs. There are a number of incubators on the market that will hatch, but the very best incubator manufactured will not hatch a single chick unless the eggs are right. Even "old biddy" herself has been known to fail when set with unfertile and rotten eggs. So many are eager to become rich in the poultry business that they spend a large sum of money fixing up an extensive plant, and never make preparations for buying stock or securing eggs that they know to be fresh and fertile.



They Succeed . Best

in keeping poultry for profit, who study cause and effect carefully. Many successful Poultry-raisers have learned by experience that the cause of a very bountiful supply of eggs in the fall and winter, when prices rule high is, proper care, feeding and management, which they have learned by experience includes the use in the mash food, once daily,

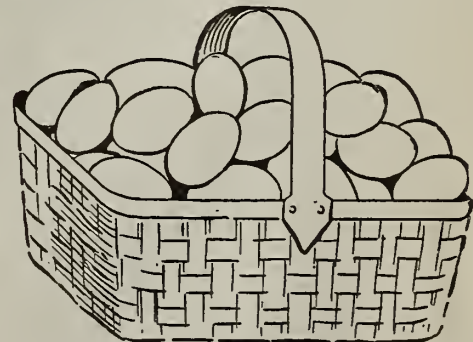
Sheridan's Condition Powder.

It helps to mature the young pullets early so they will lay when five or six months of age.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

No matter what kind of foods you use, Sheridan's Powder is absolutely necessary to cause the desired effect namely, a well filled basket of eggs daily. It gets old hens over molting period quickly; it develops to laying maturity the young pullets. It causes perfect assimilation of the food elements needed to effect growth, prevent disease and produce eggs.

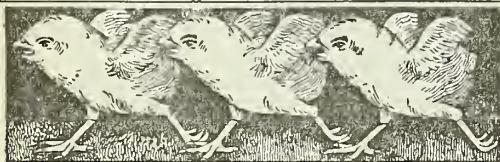
NOTHING ON EARTH
WILL
MAKE HENS LAY
LIKE
SHERIDAN'S
CONDITION POWDER



It is absolutely pure; Highly concentrated; Most economical, because such small doses; No other kind made like it. In quantity it costs less than one-tenth cent a day per hen.

Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers, or sent by mail. Large cans most economical to buy.
IF YOU CAN'T GET IT NEAR HOME, SEND TO US. ASK FIRST.
We send one pack, 25 cts; five, \$1.00. A two-pound can, \$1.20; Six, \$5.00. Express paid. Sample copy "best Poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

It is not infrequent that an incubator operator will buy a great number of eggs from the country store, huckster, or even a packer. When you stop and consider that these eggs may be from a month to six months old, may be chilled, and may be set on for a few days by some unbrooding hen, and a thousand and one other points, it is no wonder that these eggs will not hatch in an incubator. Eggs to produce the best results should not be over a week old. Many cases where they have been kept for six and eight weeks and successfully incubated are on record, but it does not pay to depend upon such. There are so many reasons why eggs should be fresh that it would take much valuable space to enumerate at least a small portion of them. There is just as much importance attached to securing eggs which you know to be fresh and fertile as there is in a successful incubator. It is a very unwise policy to buy eggs from a store, huckster or packer. If you want to make artificial incubation a success, arrange with your neighbors to furnish you strictly fresh eggs. Secure them from some farmer who takes good care of his fowls, has a good house, and gathers his eggs frequently. But the successful operation of an incubator does not depend solely upon fresh eggs; you must have an incubator that will do the work. It must not be a plaything but a real success, a machine that has stood the test for years, and not one that is built up in a few months by printers' ink and heralded through the country as being the only machine, but an incubator that has been tried by thousands in every known section of the world. If you want the best machine you must use the **Prairie State**. A free catalogue will be sent you by addressing the **Prairie State Incubator Co., Homer City, Pa.**



Strong, Vigorous Chicks

Are hatched in

PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

The ease of operation and reliability of regulation make the **Prairie State Machines** the leaders of the day. There is no guessing—they are absolute in their work. **322 First Premiums** at the leading shows. Catalogue—free.

**Prairie State Incubator Co.,
Homer City, Pa.**

BOYER likes White Ply. Rocks. I sell good ones. H. D. Hopkins, Montpelier, Vt.

FOR SALE. White Wyandotte and S. C. W. Leghorn cockerels and pullets, 75 cents each. Pure bred stock. E. K. BLAKE, Nicholville, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE and BUFF LEGHORNS Choice Pullets and Cockerels for sale at \$2.00 each. Eggs in season. PINE GROVE POULTRY YARDS, Jay (Essex Co.,) N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTES Exclusively. Do you want eggs from leading strains? Great egg producers. 75 to 90 per cent. fertile. Satisfaction guaranteed. W. E. Shoemaker, Laceyville, Pa.

BUY A PEN OF

S. C. White Leghorns for \$6.00. Prime stock, no culls. Bargains. HENRY R. INGALLS, Nortonhill, N. Y.

Our Brown Egg

White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds are pedigree bred for heavy laying by trap nests. My Wyandottes won 1st cock; 2d, 3d hens; 3d pen; 1st eggs, Manchester, N. H. show, 1900. Scored 92 to 95 each. Stock scoring high from heavy layers \$1.00 each and upwards. C. E. DAVIS, Warner, N. H.

60 Selected W. WYANDOTTE PULLETS (March hatched) layed 1,063 eggs in Nov. Cockerels out of same hatch for sale at \$2 and \$3 each.

LYONS HILL POULTRY FARM, Athol Centre, Mass.

BELCIAN HARES

FOR SALE.

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS.

3042 Susquehanna Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR SALE

ONE UNIVERSAL INCUBATOR in as good condition as when purchased. Used only one season and gave good satisfaction. Will sell it for \$15.00. Address, Chas. S. Billmeyer, Shenandoah Junction, W. Va.

Buff L. Cockerels. First premium at Suffolk Co., Riverhead. W. Darling, South Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

WINTER EGGS.

HOW TO GET THEM
To Your City Customers.



Revolving Cabinets, Fancier's Boxes, etc.

People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

Lee's Lice Killer is all that its name implies. The Keystone Granite Grit "doth not go to dust."

See C. K. Nelson's new advertisement of White Wyandotte eggs in this issue.

If you send us a stamp we will send you free Boyer's manual on Poultry Diseases.

Note the attractive little advertisement in this issue of D. A. Mount, Jamesburg, N. J.

The Ideal is a new \$5.00 brooder just placed upon the market by the Ideal Brooder Co., East Mansfield, Mass.

Johnson & Stokes, Philadelphia, Pa., are one of the oldest and most reliable poultry supply houses in this country.

See the new advertisement of the **Prairie State** incubator in this number. "322 First Premiums" is a big record for any article.

If you want to buy a poultry place or installments the same as rent, look up the Hammon-ton advertisement. It was our old home.

The Hydro-Safety Lamp, advertised in A FEW HENS, is an excellent article. It will save you a lot of worry about fire in the incubator room.

White Wyandottes and Pekin ducks at a bargain, is what W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y., are advertising in this number of A FEW HENS.

We use a Mann bone cutter on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm, and while we are not prepared to say it is the best, we do know that it is a strictly first-class and reliable machine.

Read the advertisements carefully. We have every reason to believe that our advertisers are reliable. All complaints against them are promptly investigated when reported to us.

Attention is called to the special offer made on page 85 of this issue, by the Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co., of New York City. Their Egg Food and Tonic is having a wonderful sale.

I. K. Felch & Son, Natick, Mass., are reporting a big trade in Brahmas, Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks. Uncle Isaac Felch, the senior member of the firm is the father of poultry culture in America, and is the man who made the Light Brahma famous.

The Pineland incubator, advertised in A FEW HENS, has been on the market for quite a number of years. It is a simple and economical machine and gives excellent results. We are acquainted with the Pineland people and their goods, and can recommend both.

R. E. Bruce, 315 and 317 Tchoupitoulas street, New Orleans, La., breeder of White Wyandottes and S. C. Brown Leghorns, offers a sitting of eggs of either one of the above varieties to any person sending him twelve yearly subscriptions to A FEW HENS, at 25 cents each. That is certainly an easy chance to get good eggs.

F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Me. Dear Sir:—Several of my pullets have started laying and they all readily took to the Ideal trap nest. Not one of the sixteen eggs so far laid have been found outside the nests. I can see no way in which the attachment can be improved, as the Ideal nest is perfect.—F. H. Harvey, Lands-downe, Md.

The Bennett & Millett Co., Gouverneur, N. Y., manufacturers of the Piqueur Clover Meal, have issued a new calendar for 1901, and the months of October, 1900 to January, 1901. It is about the finest piece of work we have yet seen and is in keeping with the excellent quality of clover that this firm sends out. For enterprise and reliability we can recommend them.

We acknowledge receipt of the new catalogue of the Humphrey green bone and vegetable cutter, manufactured by Humphrey & Sons, Joliet, Illinois. It is the handsomest work in that line we have yet seen. Besides being replete with information regarding the bone cutters, it also contains valuable poultry information and egg records. It is just such a book that will be appreciated by poultry lovers and can be had by addressing as above and mentioning A FEW HENS.

The old and well known Poultry Supply House of Johnson & Stokes, Philadelphia, appear with their Winter announcement elsewhere in this issue. These people handle everything necessary to make a success of the poultry business, including the famous Cyphers Incubator for which they are agents. This means that they carry the machine in stock and can make prompt shipments at great saving of freight. Their catalogue is a reputable encyclopedia of everything needed by the poultryman. Write for one and mention this paper in doing so.

Now is the time to begin feeding green cut bone. Several years' experience in feeding green bone has convinced us that for egg production and health it has no superior in the food line. But green bone must be fed fresh the day it is cut. There are a number of excellent bone cutters advertised in this issue and it would be well for our readers to send to each for circulars and carefully study the claims made. We have had excellent reports from all of them and there is not much likelihood of making a mistake in your selection.

We are happy to call our readers' attention to that old poultryman's standby, the \$5.00 Champion Brooder. Thousands of our readers are no doubt fully aware of its merits from actual experience, and when we say we are confident that none of those who have given the brooders a trial have ever regretted the transaction, we feel confident that every one will endorse our statement. The \$5.00 Champion Brooder has been on the market for years and has performed work of the most marvelous character, in fact it has made the artificial rearing of chickens a success, removed it almost entirely from an uncertain to a firm base and now with use of these brooders chickens can be raised outdoors even in Winter, without shelter of any kind. This feat has become so common with the Champion Brooder that it is now considered by those who use them as good as the most expensive brooder houses. The system of heating and ventilation used in this brooder is so perfect and conform to Nature so completely that it will raise nearly every chick put into it. Many reasons for this fact can be given, among them is the fact that chicks cannot become overheated in them, a safety compartment makes this impossible. Thus one of the principal reasons for chicks' diseases is eliminated from the brooder. This feature is patented and is found only in the "Champion." The powerful radiator will maintain the desired degree of heat inside the brooder even in the severest Winter weather, outdoors or indoors. We could go on and enumerate the many good qualities found only in the "Champion" but will ask all interested to send to Mess. J. A. Bennett & Sons, Gouverneur, N. Y. for their elegant new catalogue.